LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

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The Month in Brief

THE PROMPT PAYMENT OF WAGES

In the year 1924 the Government of India requested the local Governments to furnish particulars regarding the period for which wages were paid in organized industries and the delays which were associated with their payment. The information received revealed, in the opinion of the Government of India, a state of affairs which could not be regarded as satisfactory. The Government of India therefore now propose to set statutory limits within which wages must be paid. A copy of the letter which has been issued to all Local Governments and circulated by the Labour Office will be found on page 25.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of August 1926. The average absenteeism was 11·06 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·87 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 1·09 per cent. for Viramgaum, 11·89 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·22 per cent. for Broach.

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 11·91 per cent. in the Engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 13·13 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·9 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 7·3.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In September 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 155, the same as in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 152.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 148 for the month of August 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in progress during August 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 6900 and the number of working days lost 22,457.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During August 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 428 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for September 1926

INDEX REMAINS STATIONARY

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **55 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **52 per cent.**

In September 1926,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 155 both in August and September 1926. The general index was 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and on a par with the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a fall of one point during the month. Wheat fell by 3 points, bajri registered a rise of 9 points, whilst rice and jowari remained the same. The price of gram and turdal advanced by 6 and 2 points respectively. Under other food articles sugar (refined) rose by 7 points but the price of gul showed no change. There was a fall of one point in tea, of 7 points in ghee and of 14 points in potatoes, but onions went up by 38 points. The " other food " index was 179 as against 181 in August 1926.

There was a slight increase in the price of kerosene oil but the " fuel and lighting " index was steady at 164. The clothing group remained stationary, thus maintaining the lowest level (160) in 1926.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

—	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Per cent	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	55
February ..	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	54
March ..	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	55
April ..	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	53
May ..	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	53
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	55
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	57
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	55
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	55
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	
November..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	
December..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between August 16 and September 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—SEPTEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·547	7·547	391·58	528·29	528·2
Wheat	,,	21	5·594	7·599	7·438	117·47	159·58	156·2
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5·698	5·698	47·89	62·68	62·6
Bajri	,,	6	4·313	6·172	6·568	25·88	37 03	39·4
Total—Cereals ..	..	..				582·82	787 58	786·5
Index Numbers—Cereals ..	..	..				*100*	*135*	*13*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·162	6·417	43·02	61·62	64·1
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	7·844	7·922	17·53	23·53	23·7
Total—Pulses ..	..	..				60 55	85·15	87·9
Index Numbers—Pulses ..	..	..		..		*100*	*141*	*14*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	13·693	14·287	15·24	27·39	28·5
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	14·287	14·287	59·90	100·01	100·0
Tea	,,	$\frac{1}{40}$	40·000	77·776	77·375	1·00	1·94	1·9
Salt	,,	5	2·130	3·313	3·313	10·65	16·57	16·5
Beef	Seer	28	0 323	0·547	0·547	9·04	15·32	15·3
Mutton	,,	33	0·417	0·682	0·682	13·76	22·51	22·5
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·1
Ghee	,,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	50·792	97·620	94·057	76·19	146·43	141·0
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	7·740	7·141	49·27	85 14	78·5
Onions	,,	3	1·552	4·760	5·359	4·66	14·28	16·0
Cocoanut Oil	,,	$\frac{1}{2}$	25·396	28·573	28·573	12·70	14·29	14·2
Total—Other food articles ..	..	..				381·18	690·04	681·0
Index Numbers—Other food articles ..	..	..				*100*	*181*	*17*
Total—All food articles ..	..	..				1,024·55	1,562·77	1,555·6
Index Numbers—All food articles ..	..	..				*100*	*153*	*15*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·375	7·406	21·88	36·88	37·0
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·4
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0·771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·7
Total—Fuel and lighting ..	..	..				60·44	99·14	99·2
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting	..	..				*100*	*164*	*16*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb	27	0·594	0·969	0·969	16·04	26·16	26·1
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	1·052	1·052	16·03	26·30	26·3
T. Cloth	,,	36	0·583	0·906	0·906	20·99	32·62	32·6
Total—Clothing ..	..	..				53·06	85·08	85·0
Index Numbers—Clothing ..	..	..				*100*	*160*	*16*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·4
Index Numbers—House rent ..	..	..				*100*	*172*	*17*
Grand Total ..	..	..				**1,251·07**	**1,941·39**	**1,934·2**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.	..	..				**100**	**155**	**15**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in August and September 1926 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

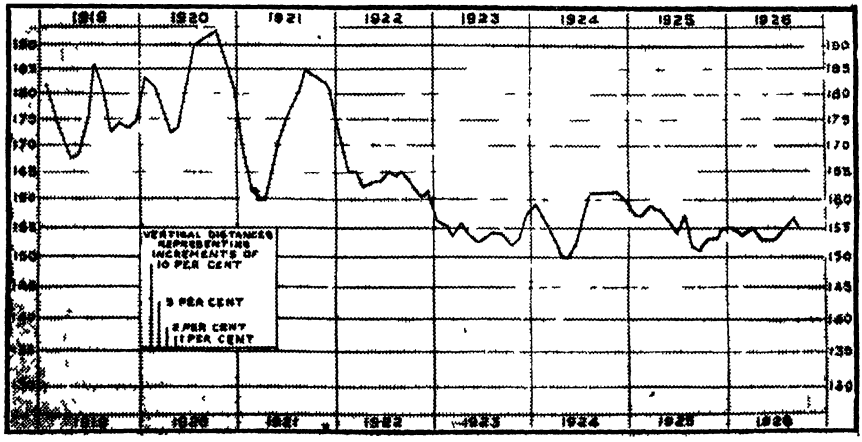
Articles	July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Sept 1926 over or below Aug 1926	Articles	July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Sept 1926 over or below Aug 1926
Rice ..	100	135	135	..	Salt ..	100	156	156	..
Wheat ..	100	136	133	— 3	Beef ..	100	169	169	..
Jowari ..	100	131	131	..	Mutton ..	100	164	164	..
Bajri ..	100	143	152	+.9	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	143	149	+ 6	Ghee ..	100	192	185	— 7
Turdal ..	100	134	136	+ 2	Potatoes ..	100	173	159	—14
Sugar (refined).	100	180	187	+ 7	Onions ..	100	307	345	+38
Raw sugar (gul).	100	167	167	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	194	193	— 1	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	153	152	— 1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 26, Wheat 25, Jowari 24, Bajri 34, Gram 33, Turdal 26, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 48, Salt 36, Beef 41, Mutton 39, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 37, Onions 71, Cocoanut Oil 12.

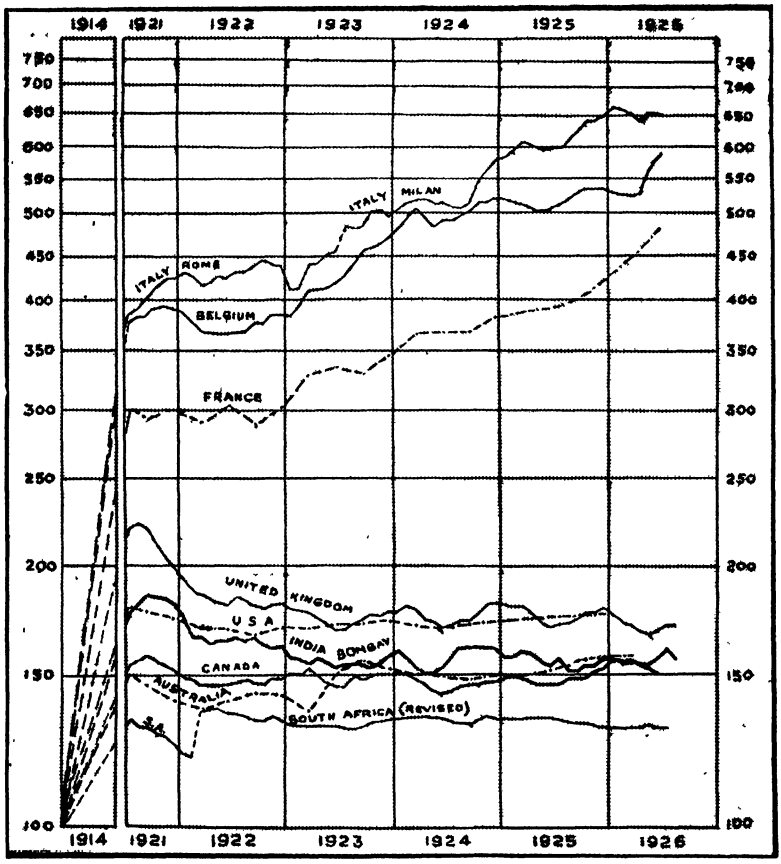
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 6 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos.: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922 and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working class only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of one point

In August 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 148 as against 149 in the previous month. There was a rise of 2 points in the food group but the non-food group declined by 3 points as compared with July 1926. The general index number was 115 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 15 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for food-grains advanced by 4 points due to a rise of 2 points in cereals and of 5 points in pulses. Rice, wheat and jowari rose by 1, 4 and 10 points respectively, barley recorded a fall of 6 points whilst bajri remained stationary. Gram was dearer by 10 points.

There was a rise of 2 points in " Sugar " owing to a rise of 5 points in refined sugar (Java White). The price of gul showed no change.

A fall of 7 points in turmeric resulted in lowering the " Other-food " index by 2 points. Ghee and salt were steady during the month.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds, Cotton Manufactures, Hides and skins and Metals registered decreases of 6, 2, 19, and 3 points respectively. Raw cotton went up by 5 points whilst Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles remained practically unchanged.

The sub-joined table compares August 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1925*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with July 1926	+ or − % compared with Aug 1925
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 1	+ 1
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 4	+33
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 1	− 8
4. Other food ..	3	− 1	−20
All food ..	15	+ 1	− 3
5. Oilseeds ..	4	− 4	− 4
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 3	−19
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 1	−14
8. Other textiles.	2		−16
9. Hides and skins	3	−13	−20
10. Metals ..	5	− 2	− 4
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	. . .	− 7
All non-food ..	29	− 2	−11
General Index No...	44	− 1	− 8

Groups	Aug 1925	Nov 1925	Feb 1926	May 1926	July 1926	Aug 1926
1. Cereals ..	98	103	96	100	98	99
2. Pulses ..	93	120	109	115	120	124
3. Sugar ..	96	98	90	95	87	88
4. Other food ..	94	90	81	79	76	75
All food ..	96	100	92	95	92	94
5. Oilseeds ..	101	96	93	99	101	97
6. Raw cotton ..	97	89	79	73	76	79
7. Cotton manufactures ..	100	94	90	88	87	86
8. Other textiles.	101	99	95	93	84	84
9. Hides & skins.	110	106	105	106	101	88
10. Metals ..	97	97	97	96	96	94
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	101	97	92	94	94
All non-food ..	100	97	93	91	91	89
General Index No.	98	98	93	93	91	91

*Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 104.

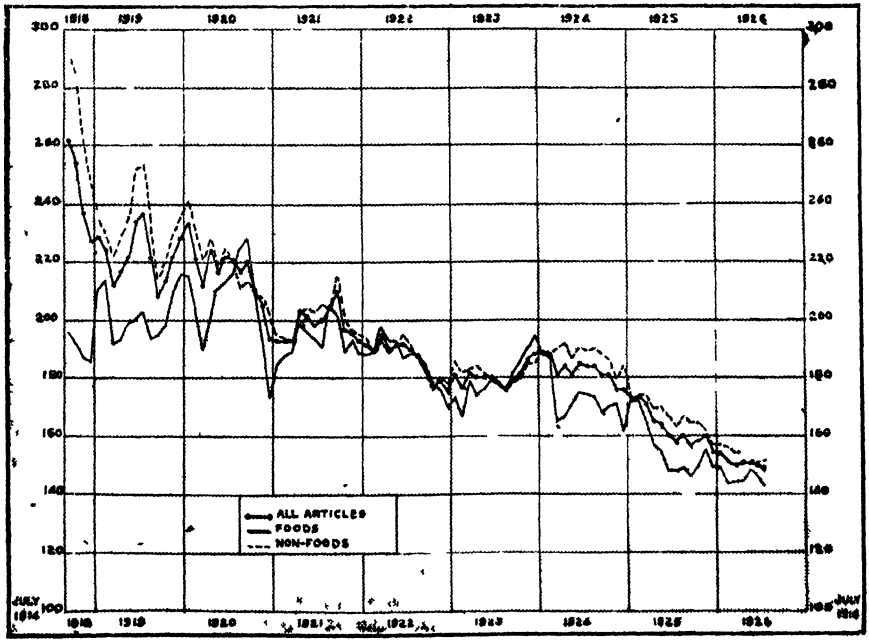
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

—	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
Eight-monthly „ 1926	145	153	151

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

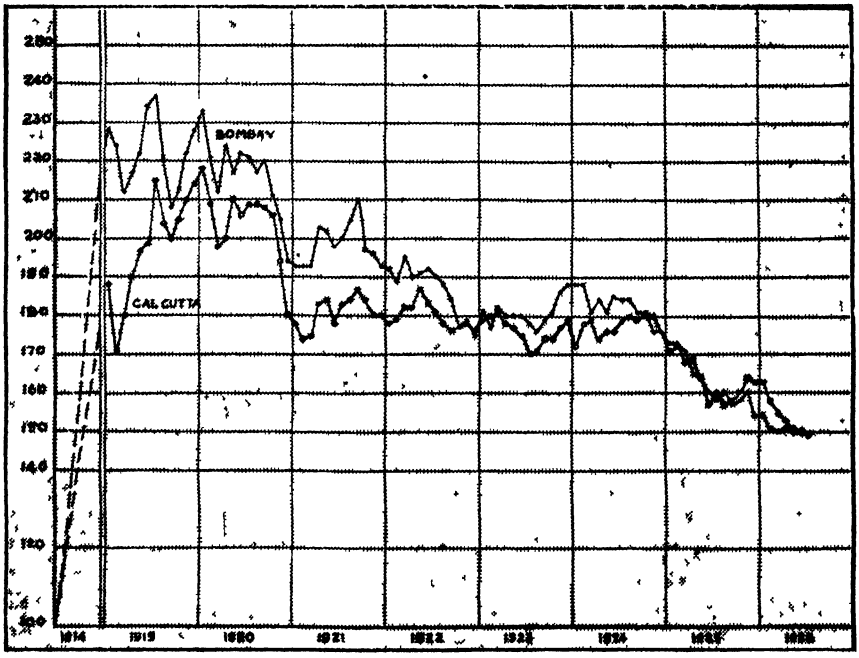


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

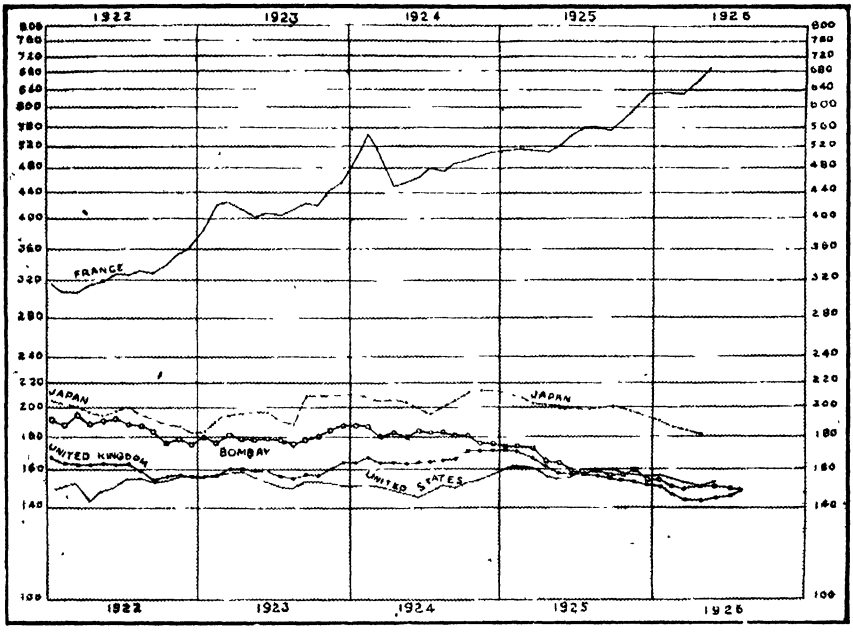
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 and 1924 and during 1925 the two curves temporarily crossed. Since the middle of 1925 prices in Bombay have been lower than in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in "The Statist."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 14 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times* and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	July 1926	Aug. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Aug. 1926 over or below	
							July 1914	July 1926
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill .	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2	
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 6	7 9	+ 1 11	+ 0 3
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 6	5 7	+ 1 4	+ 0 1
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 9	6 5	+ 1 10	— 0 4
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 2	5 11	+ 1 7	— 0 3
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 0	8 0	+ 2 1	
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer	28	1 1	2 0	1 11	+ 0 10	— 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul) .	Sangli, middle quality	,,	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 5	15 2	+ 7 4	— 0 3
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee	176	1 9	2 10	2 11	+ 1 2	+ 0 1
Beef ..		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	
Mutton ..		,,	39	3 0	5 6	5 4	+ 2 4	— 0 2
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,,	28	7 1	13 6	13 8	+ 6 7	+ 0 2
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,,	28	0 8	1 5	1 1	+ 0 5	— 0 4
Onions ..	Nasi ..	,,	28	0 3	0 7	0 8	+ 0 5	+ 0 1
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,,	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5	

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are for actual transactions and are carefully collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during August 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. From amongst the six articles included under " Food-grains " the price of jowari and wheat rose by one and 3 pies respectively but that of bajri recorded a fall of 4 pies per paylee. Gram declined by 3 pies per paylee whilst rice and turdal showed no change. In the case of other food articles there was a decrease of 3 pies in tea and of 2 pies in mutton per lb. Sugar (refined) declined by one pie per seer but salt advanced by one pie per paylee. Onions and ghee were dearer by one and 2 pies respectively but potatoes fell by 4 pies per seer.

As compared with July 1914, all articles showed considerable increases. Onions are more than double their prewar level. Sugar (refined), milk, tea, ghee and mutton have risen by more than 75 per cent. and gul, salt, beef, and potatoes by more than 60 per cent. while the rise in the prices of foodgrains is between 30 and 40 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in July and August 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in July and August 1926 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in July 1926 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in August 1926 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	118	118	109	102	Rice ..	100	118	118	106	116
Wheat ..	100	84	99	93	109	Wheat ..	100	81	96	89	105
Jowari ..	100	84	95	63	90	Jowari ..	100	83	94	60	92
Bajri ..	100	105	103	77	90	Bajri ..	100	108	108	78	97
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	98	104	86	98	Cereals ..	100	98	104	83	103
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	88	89	83	85	Gram ..	100	89	93	87	88
Turdal ..	100	102	127	94	110	Turdal ..	100	102	127	97	113
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	95	108	89	96	Pulses ..	100	96	110	92	101
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	88	102	102	107	Sugar (refined) ..	100	85	97	102	109
Jagri (Gul).	100	63	93	70	71	Jagri (Gul).	100	81	93	70	71
Tea ..	100	101	101	116	123	Tea ..	100	103	103	118	125
Salt ..	100	62	71	111	88	Salt ..	100	60	69	108	86
Beef ..	100	103	63	57	69	Beef ..	100	109	62	57	69
Mutton ..	100	89	89	89	98	Mutton ..	100	99	92	92	101
Milk ..	100	43	70	76	76	Milk ..	100	43	63	76	76
Ghee ..	100	80	74	74	81	Ghee ..	100	79	73	73	86
Potatoes ..	100	79	99	99	69	Potatoes ..	100	129	115	207	124
Onions ..	100	60	60	87	73	Onions ..	100	57	65	70	70
Cocoa nut oil.	100	93	112	112	98	Cocoa nut oil.	100	93	112	112	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	80	85	90	87	Other articles of food ..	100	85	86	99	92
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**86**	**92**	**89**	**91**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**89**	**93**	**94**	**96**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The differences of the relative prices at the different centres are considerable. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles recorded increases at all the four mofussil centres, there being a rise of 3 points at Karachi, of one point at Ahmedabad and of 5 points each at Poona and Sholapur. Referring back to August 1925, it is found that in relation to Bombay, the average for all food articles fell by 2 points each at Karachi and Ahmedabad but advanced by one point at Sholapur and 4 points at Poona.

Of individual articles the relative price of rice and turdal was steady at Karachi and Ahmedabad but increased at Poona. The relative prices of wheat and salt were lower and of tea, mutton, potatoes, bajri and gram higher at all the four mofussil centres. Jowari and ghee registered a slight decrease except at Poona. Jagri (gul) fell at Karachi and milk at Ahmedabad while both were stationary at the remaining centres. Sugar (refined) declined except at Sholapur and Poona. Onions showed a rise at Ahmedabad. The relative prices of cocoanut oil remained the same.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1926

Abbreviations:— S = *Scanty.* F = *Fair.* N = *Normal.* E = *Excess.*

Rainfall Division	June					July				August				September				October				
	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th
I. Bombay Presidency																						
1 Sind { River	N	F	S	S	F	F	S	F	F	F	N	N	E	E	E	E						
1 Sind { Rainfall	N	N	S	S	S	S	S	N	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	E						
2 Gujarat	S	S	S	S	N	E	E	E	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E						
3 Deccan	S	F	S	F	E	E	E	S	N	N	E	E	S	F	S	E						
4 Konkan	S	S	N	N	N	E	F	S	N	E	E	F	F	E	S	N						
II. Madras Presidency																						
1 Malabar	S	F	E	F	E	E	N	S	E	E	E	F	F	F	F	E						
2 Deccan	S	N	S	S	E	F	N	F	E	F	S	F	N	F	N	E						
3 Coast North	S	S	S	F	F	E	E	N	N	F	E	F	F	E	F	N						
4 South East	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F	F	F	S	S	N	N	E	N						
III. Mysore	F	F	S	F	E	E	N	S	E	E	E	S	S	S	E	E						
IV. Hyderabad																						
1 North	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	E	S	E	S	F						
2 South	S	S	S	F	F	N	E	F	F	E	E	F	S	F	S	E						
V. Central Provinces																						
1 Berar	S	S	S	S	N	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	F	N	S	F						
2 West	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	S	N	S	E	E	E	E	N	F						
3 East	S	N	S	S	F	N	E	F	S	F	E	E	E	E	N	E						
VI. Central India																						
1 West	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	S	N	S	E	S	E	E	E	F						
2 East	S	N	S	S	S	F	N	S	E	S	N	N	N	E	E	N						
VII. Bengal Presidency	N	F	F	F	F	N	F	E	N	E	F	E	F	E	E	S						
VIII. Assam	F	F	E	N	E	E	E	E	N	E	N	F	F	N	F	S						
IX. Bihar & Orissa																						
1 Bihar	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	E	S	N	F	E	E	F						
2 Orissa	F	F	S	F	S	E	E	N	E	N	N	E	N	E	E	F						
3 Chota Nagpur	S	S	S	F	S	E	N	F	E	E	N	E	N	E	E	N						
X. United Provinces																						
1 East	S	S	S	F	S	F	F	E	E	E	N	F	F	F	N	F						
2 West	S	S	S	N	S	S	E	N	E	E	F	E	F	N	N	N						
XI. Punjab																						
1 East & North	S	S	S	F	S	S	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E						
2 South West	N	N	S	E	F	S	E	E	S	S	F	E	S	E	F	S						
XII. Northwest Frontier	S	S	S	E	S	S	E	S	S	S	N	N	E	S	E	E						
XIII. Rajputana																						
1 West	S	N	S	S	S	F	E	E	S	E	N	F	E	E	E	E						
2 East	F	S	S	S	S	F	E	F	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	F						
XIV. Burma																						
1 Lower	N	N	E	E	N	E	N	N	N	N	N	E	N	N	F	F						
2 Upper	N	F	N	N	N	F	S	E	E	F	N	F	F	E	E	F						

NOTES—

"Normal" in the chart is a variation from 80 to 120 % of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120 % of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80 %; and "Scanty" below 40 %. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding Hill Stations.

The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in August .. 7 **Workpeople involved .. 6900**

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during August 1926, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in August 1926.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in August 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in August 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in August 1926*
	Started before 1st August	Started in August	Total		
Textile		6	6	1,400	2,807
Transport					
Engineering					
Metal					
Miscellaneous		1	1	5,500	19,650
Total ..		7	7	6,900	22,457

During the month under review the number of disputes was seven, five of which occurred in cotton mills. The number of workpeople involved in all these seven disputes was 6900 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 22,457.

* *i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, an allowance being made for workers replaced by others.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results April to August 1926

—	April 1926	May 1926	June 1926	July 1926	August 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	3	4	9	4	7
Disputes in progress at beginning ..			2*	2	
Fresh disputes begun ..	3	4	7	2	7
Disputes ended ..	3	4	7	4	7
Disputes in progress at end.			2		
Number of workpeople involved ..	5,075	3,149	1,281	384	6,900
Aggregate duration in working days ..	13,088	7,733	1,752	661	22,457
Demands—					
Pay ..	2	2	3	2	4
Bonus ..					
Personal ..		1	4	1	2
Leave and hours ..					
Others ..	1	1	2	1	1
Results—					
In favour of employees.					
Compromised ..	1				1
In favour of employers..	2	4	7	4	6

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months†

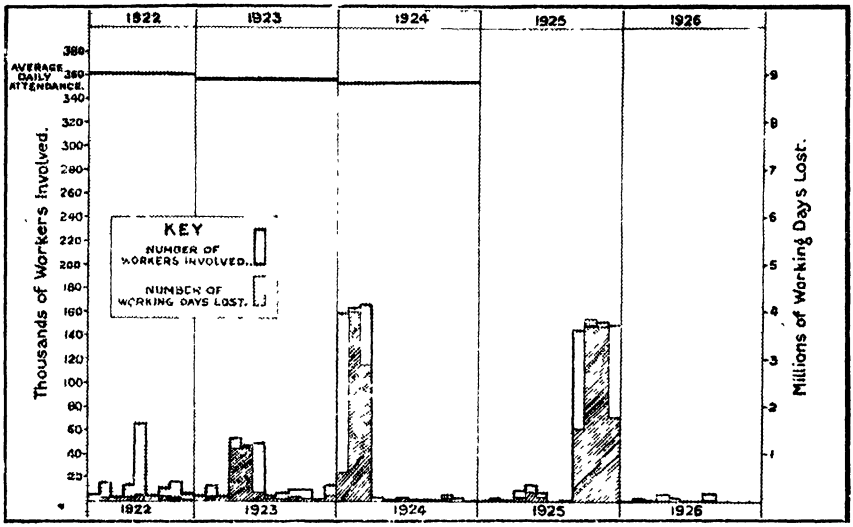
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
September 1925	7	1,551,927	83	17	..
October „	5	3,904,182	100	..	..
November „	6	3,699,628	100	..	..
December „	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February „	5	5,817	75	25	..
March „	9	3,161	67	22	11
April „	3	13,088	67	33	..
May „	4	7,733	100	..	..
June „	9	1,752	100	..	..
July „	4	661	100	..	..
August „	7	22,457	86	..	14
Summary for the above twelve months.	59	11,010,209	84	12	4

* Revised figures.

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

In all there were seven industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency during the month of August 1926. All of these disputes arose and terminated during the month under review. Four occurred in Bombay city, two in Ahmedabad and one at Hubli in the Dharwar District. Excepting the one big strike in the Conservancy Branch of the Bombay Municipality, all the others occurred in the Textile Industry. The total number of workpeople involved in all the disputes in the Textile industry was 1400 and resulted in an aggregate time loss of 2807 working days. The number of persons affected by the strike in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality was over 5000 and the number of working days lost by that strike alone amounted to 19,650. Questions of pay and allowances accounted for five disputes while the rest were due to personal causes. All the disputes in Bombay City and Ahmedabad ended in favour of the employers while the one in Hubli ended in a compromise—the employers promising to consider and remedy the grievances of the employees.

BOMBAY CITY

Out of the four disputes which arose in Bombay City during the month under review, the two most important were those in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality and in the Emperor Edward Mills, Reay Road. The former was the most serious strike that has occurred in Bombay since the general mill strike of last year. It arose quite suddenly and it is noteworthy that the proposals

of the Municipality over which the dispute arose and which precipitated the strike, would not have adversely affected the large majority of the strikers. The sub-committee of the Standing Committee of the Bombay Municipal Corporation decided on the 5th August to discontinue the payment of the extra grain compensation allowance of Rs. 5 to new employees in the Conservancy branch of the Health Department as they considered that recent declines in food prices did not justify a continuation of the grant of this allowance to new hands. Under the misapprehension that the similar allowances of the existing staff were also likely to be cut down by the decision, 2500 scavengers and halalkhors employed in the D, E, F and G Wards of the city struck work in the morning of the 24th August. The Health Officer immediately issued notices explaining the real position regarding the allowance but to no effect. On the 25th some 850 more employees from other wards including 500 cart drivers joined the strike and the situation became serious. The strikers assembled at the Esplanade Maidan in the afternoon and reiterated their demand for the continuance of the extra allowance. The Municipal Commissioner explained to them that the allowance was to be discontinued only in the case of new employees and that the pay of the existing staff was not affected. This, however, did not satisfy them and a deputation of ten strikers went up to the Commissioner at his residence where they demanded a general increase in pay ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per month and complained, among other things, against heavy work, heavy fines and dismissal for petty faults. The Commissioner promised to consider their grievances and advised them to resume work. Mr. Nikaljey and Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas also gave them the same advice and about 1550 strikers resumed work on the morning of the 26th. In the afternoon however a meeting of about 400 strikers again collected on the Esplanade Maidan, insisted on an immediate redress of their grievances and resolved not to resume work till this was done. As a result of this and the intimidation offered by some of the strikers, none of the scavengers, halalkhors and cart drivers of the whole city resumed work on the 27th. They further demanded an immediate general increase in pay. One scavenger striker was found intimidating other municipal servants and was fined Rs. 10 by a bench of Honorary Magistrates. Notices signed by the Health Officer were then posted intimating to the strikers that if they did not resume work within two days they would all be dismissed and expelled from the Municipal chawls. Another notice explaining the whole situation and advising the workers to resume work in their own interests was also circulated by the Commissioner. Dr. Nerurkar, the Health Officer of the Municipality, lodged complaints against 40 employees for leaving work without previous notice. Two of the men were convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment by the Chief Presidency Magistrate under section 3 of the Bombay Municipal Servants Act (Act V of 1890) and the cases against the rest were postponed. This produced the desired effect and the strike terminated on the 30th August in favour of the employers.

On the 17th August, 330 operatives in the roving department of the Emperor Edward Mills, at Reay Road, Bombay, struck work as their

demand for more pay for the month of July was refused by the manager. As the roving department had to be closed on account of the strike, the manager took advantage of the strike to put right some defects in the engine-room and closed the whole mill at 10-30 a.m. and put up a notice saying that the mill would remain closed for a few days. When the mill restarted work on the 21st the manager seeing that the strikers had collected at the mill put up a notice to the effect that the outstanding wages of the strikers would be forfeited and that they would be treated as new hands. One hundred and forty new hands were employed by the management on the 21st and another 90 on the 24th. Sixty-five strikers resumed work unconditionally. On the 28th August a few strikers assaulted some of the newly engaged hands at Reay Road and one of the assailants was arrested by the police. The manager did not want to take up any more hands and a notice was issued to all the workers informing them that their services would not be required from the 1st October 1926 as the mill is to be closed from that date on account of trade depression. The strike ended in favour of the employers.

Of the remaining strikes in Bombay City, one occurred in the Bombay Woollen Mills where 120 workers in the worsted spinning department struck work on the 14th August demanding the restoration of the former "fixed wages system" in place of the new "Piece Work System" which had adversely affected their wages for the previous month. This was refused and the strike continued till the 24th August. The manager allowed 42 strikers to resume work unconditionally, dismissed the rest and employed 78 new hands instead. The result of this strike was also favourable to the employers.

On the 15th August, 35 operatives of the ring department in the Century Mills struck work in sympathy with an oiler who was dismissed by the management for inefficiency. The management refused to reinstate him. Twenty-five strikers resumed work unconditionally the next morning and the rest were replaced by 10 new hands on the 19th. The strikers did not succeed in their object.

AHMEDABAD

In the Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Mills, seven weavers were given cloth they were said to have spoiled instead of cash wages. As a protest, 500 weavers struck work on the 9th August and demanded better yarn so that the production of cloth might improve in quality and result in better wages. The manager promised to consider their grievances and asked them to return to work immediately failing which they would be fined Rs. 2 per day. Thereupon about 10 strikers approached the agent who advised them to join work immediately and promised to look into their complaints. Work was resumed on the 10th unconditionally.

The second dispute in Ahmedabad arose in the Ahmedabad Laxmi Cotton Mills where 40 workers of the frame department struck work on the 20th August in sympathy with a jobber who had some grudge against another jobber in the mill. The strikers wanted the latter to be dismissed. The management refused to do so and employed 40 new

operatives on the 22nd and informed the strikers in the afternoon that they would receive their outstanding wages on pay-day and that they would not be re-engaged. This dispute thus ended in favour of the employers.

HUBLI (DHARWAR)

The manager of the Bharat Spinning and Weaving Mills, Hubli, proposed to change the quality of "drill" which forms the main production of the mill, from 44 picks to the inch to 36 to the inch and accordingly to reduce the rate of wages from 5 pies per lb. to 4½ pies per lb. The manager believed that this would not affect the total daily earnings of the weavers as it was possible for the weavers to turn out within the same amount of time, a greater amount of cloth of the inferior variety. As this change in the rate was not appreciated by the workers, about 375 weavers struck work on the 1st August. The workers wanted the old rates to be retained in spite of the change in the texture of the cloth as they believed that the change in texture would not affect the total daily production. The manager agreed to retain the old rate for a fortnight and issued a notice to the effect that from the 15th August the rates of wages would vary with the texture of the cloth and that the grain compensation allowance would continue as before. This satisfied the strikers to a great extent because they had heard some rumours to the effect that the grain allowance was also to be stopped. The second important complaint of the strikers was the alleged infliction of heavy and sometimes unjust fines for spoiled cloth. The workers stated, that in many cases the power of inflicting fines was exercised even by the departmental heads and this was resented by them. The third complaint of the strikers related to the loss sustained by the weavers on account of the time lost in the setting up of beams. The weavers estimated the loss on this account to amount to about one day's wages in a month. The manager stated that he would consider giving them a compensatory allowance of 8 annas per head per month on this account. He also promised to look into and remedy several other minor grievances of the workers in his mill. The strikers then resumed work on the 3rd August and the strike terminated partly in favour of the employees.

A CORRECTION

With reference to the strike in the Ahmedabad New Cotton Mill reported on page 1048 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1926, we are informed that the strikers complained not of their treatment by the weaving-master but by the head-jobber. The men had no grievance against the weaving-master. The manager and weaving-master of the Mill state that there was no ill-treatment even on the part of the jobber, that the strike was organized by two jobbers who were dismissed for insubordination, and that there was no interruption of work for more than two hours either in the weaving or in the winding department.

Industrial Disputes in India

STATISTICS FOR APRIL TO JUNE 1926

The total number of industrial disputes in India during the quarter ended 30th June 1926, was 40, of which 39 were new disputes and one was already in progress before April.

General Effects of Disputes by Provinces

	Bombay	Bengal	United Provinces	Bihar and Orissa	Central Provinces	Assam	Total
Number of disputes in progress ..	16	19	1	1	2	1	40
Number of workers involved .	5,836	56,670	800	200	668	500	64,674
Aggregate number of working days lost .	22,573	344,859	6,400	1,600	11,522	1,000	387,954

Nineteen disputes occurred in Bengal, 16 in the Bombay Presidency, 2 in the Central Provinces, and one each in the United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa and Assam.

The following table gives the classification of disputes by industries:

Industry	Number of disputes	Number of work-people involved	Aggregate number of working days lost on account of disputes
Cotton mills	17	6,701	34,993
Jute mills	12	55,567	341,704
Printing works	1	30	330
Tea estate	1	500	1,000
Coal fields	1	700	1,600
Conservancy	3	461	1,047
Miscellaneous	5	1,215	7,280
Total ..	40	64,674	387,954

Though the number of disputes in the Cotton Industry was greater than that in the Jute Industry, the latter suffered most, the number of work-people involved being 55,567 or 86 per cent. of the total number affected in India and the time loss amounting to 341,704 days or 88 per cent.

The question of "pay" was at the root of 17 or 43 per cent. of the disputes, while no fewer than 27 per cent. were caused by "personal grievances." "Bonus" accounted for one dispute and "leave and hours of work" for

six disputes. The rest were due to other causes. Out of the 37 disputes settled during the quarter, only in one case were the strikers able wholly to achieve their object, while the result of another dispute was partly favourable to the employees, the remaining 35 or 95 per cent. being failures from the workers' point of view.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR AUGUST 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of August in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During the month of August there were in all 238 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which 2 were fatal, 31 serious and the rest minor. Of the total, 69 or 29 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 169 or 71 per cent. to " other causes." The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 68 per cent. in workshops, 28 per cent. in textile mills and 4 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns. One of the accidents which was due to " other causes " affected three persons, two of whom were seriously injured.

In Ahmedabad there were 28 accidents, all of which occurred in cotton mills. Of these, 21 or 75 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 7 or 25 per cent. to " other causes." Two of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all 6 accidents, 4 of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust and one each in Engineering Workshops and miscellaneous concerns. All these accidents were minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 39 out of which 16 occurred in Textile mills, 18 in workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Of the total number of accidents 17 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 22 to other causes. Two of these accidents were fatal, 6 serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

AHMEDABAD

The manager of an oil mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*a*) for breach of section 26 of the Indian Factories Act. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of five cases.

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*b*) for breach of section 18 (1) (*c*) read with Rule 33 (*iii*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 150.

Workmen's Compensation Act

JURISDICTION OF COMMISSIONERS

The following press note has been issued by the Director of Information, Bombay.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Act the liability to pay compensation is determined by a Commissioner appointed for the purpose. The Local Government have appointed a whole-time Commissioner and a number of *ex-officio* Commissioners and prescribed the area of their jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of each Commissioner in respect of proceedings under the Act is determined by the place where the accident has occurred and deposits in respect of fatal accidents must be submitted to the Commissioner concerned. These deposits are, however, often sent to the Commissioner at Bombay in respect of accidents occurring in the jurisdiction of other Commissioners and it is therefore brought to the notice of the public and employers that the following are the different Commissioners appointed under the Workmen's Compensation Act for the various areas :—

Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay ..	For Bombay, Bombay Suburban District, the Districts of Ahmedabad, Broach, Surat, Sholapur, and Khandesh ; and all cases connected with the B. B. & C. I. Railway Line, the Hydro-Electric Companies under the management of Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., and the G. I. P. Railway, arising in the Bombay Presidency, irrespective of the district in which they occur.

Ex-officio Commissioners

Judges of the Small Causes Courts at District Headquarters ..	for Karachi and Poona Districts.
First Class Subordinate Judge at Nadiad	for Kaira District.
Second Class Subordinate Judges of the local courts ..	for Hubli and Gadag
Second Class Subordinate Judges at District Headquarters ..	for districts of Panch Mahals, Kolaba, Larkana, Thar and Parkar, and Upper Sind Frontier.
Second Class Subordinate Judge at Naushahro	for Nawabshah District.
First Class Subordinate Judges at District Headquarters ..	for other districts.
Chief Judge of the Court of the Resident, Aden	for the Settlement of Aden.

A short while ago the Government of Bombay announced that the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Rules thereunder had been translated into all the principal Vernaculars in the Presidency (Marathi, Gujarati, Kanarese and Urdu) and that copies had been put on sale at the Government Book Depot, Town Hall, Bombay, at annas eleven. This publication does not, however, include the Government of India Notification, No. L-1189 of 26th June 1924 as amended by the notification, No. L-1272 of 15th April 1925, directing employers of workmen to submit a return in the prescribed form, specifying the number of injuries in respect of which compensation has been paid by them during the previous year. The attention of employers is drawn to this notification which will be embodied in a future reprint of the publication.

Details of Compensation and of Proceedings during August 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

The present article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of August 1926. All Commissioners except four furnished information and out of a total of 35 cases disposed of during the month 33 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It should be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 14,218-5-0 was awarded as compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 20,294-8-9 awarded during the previous month and Rs. 13,422-1-0 two months ago. Out of the 35 accidents for which compensation was given, 15 were fatal and 20 were of permanent partial disablement.

The number of compensation cases was 18 in textile mills and 15 in other industries. The corresponding figures for the month of July 1926 are 19 and 36. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation in all the cases were males over 15 years of age. Of the 35 cases disposed of during the month under review, 20 were original claims and the rest registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in fifteen cases and agreements registered in an equal number. Simple distribution was effected in two cases ; two more cases were withdrawn while one was dismissed.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th September 1926 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

"The situation regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at present in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—The position in this division is one of considerable anxiety just at present. During the period under review, the rains have been generally continuous and excessive almost throughout the division. There was some break in rains for a few days in the last week and it was thought that conditions would improve, but owing to the continuous and excessive rains received in this week the prospects have again become gloomy and great apprehension is felt for the future. Owing to the recent rains the crops in low-lying lands are being washed away, while even those on high lands are being over-watered. The agricultural operations such as interculturing, re-sowing, etc., are interrupted. It is not, of course, possible at this stage to say anything finally about the prospects of the division as conditions may still improve if a break in rains accompanied by good sunshine occurs immediately.

Konkan.—The conditions in this division are generally satisfactory. The rainfall has been abundant and well-distributed and the crops are developing satisfactorily in consequence.

Deccan and Karnatak.—The position in the East of these two divisions was one of suspense till the first week of September owing to deficiency of rain, with the result that the standing crops were showing signs of withering and anxiety was felt for the sowing of *rabi* crops. Owing to the excellent rains received during the last few days, however, the position has considerably improved and *rabi* sowings on a fairly extensive scale will soon be undertaken. In Khandesh the rains in the second fortnight of August were rather excessive, but the break in the last few days has been very useful and prospects of cotton and other crops are now reported to be satisfactory. The condition in the West of both the divisions continues satisfactory."

Employment Situation in August 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 125 or 84·46 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of August 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 125 returns amounted to 9·75 per cent. in August as against 9·79 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working in August 1926 78 or 97·50 per cent. furnished returns. Supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 11·06 per cent. in August as compared with 10·38 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad, 57 mills were working during the month of August. Information was supplied by 38 or 66·67 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism decreased considerably from 10·38 per cent. in July to 2·87 per cent. in the month under review. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

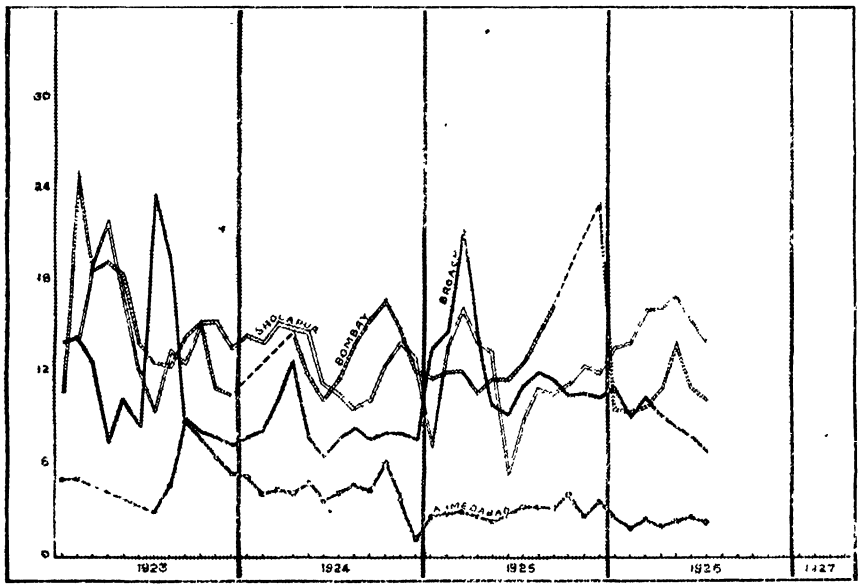
One of the two mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was short of the demand and that absenteeism increased in August owing to the prevalence of fever.

Returns were submitted by 5 out of 6 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 11·89.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. One of the mills reported that the supply of labour was not equal to the demand and that absenteeism had increased in August owing to holidays. The average absenteeism was 9·22 per cent. in August and 6·92 per cent. in July.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the cotton mill industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering workshops declined from 18·41 per cent. in July to 11·91 per cent. in the month under review. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 13·13 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 7·3 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during August. As compared with the previous month there was a decline in absenteeism during the month under review.

The Prompt Payment of Wages

The following letter No. L.—1391, dated 28th July 1926, has been issued by the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour :—

" I am directed to address you regarding the advisability of legislating for the purpose of preventing undue delay in the payment of wages to industrial workers.

2. In this Department's letter No. L.-1192 of 20th September 1924 local Governments were requested to furnish particulars regarding the periods by which wages are paid in organized industries and the delays which are associated with their payment. The information so collected, which has since been published in tabular form,* reveals a state of affairs which cannot be regarded as other than unsatisfactory. For it is clear that, generally speaking, the time which elapses between the end of the period for which wages have been earned and the date on which they are paid is longer than is usual in industries in other countries ; and the delay is, in a number of cases, so great as to add appreciably to the economic difficulties of workmen. Systematic delays in payment are particularly associated with payment on a monthly basis, and the month is the period most commonly employed for the calculation of wages. It is no uncommon thing—in fact, it appears to be the rule in certain industries—for monthly wages to be systematically withheld until a fortnight after the close of the month to which they relate. And cases have come to the notice of Government in which wages had been withheld for considerably longer periods.

3. It is unnecessary to emphasize the fact that a practice of this kind results in considerable hardship to the workers concerned. With monthly payments, a delay of a fortnight in disbursement means that the employee has to work for over six weeks before he gets his first month's wages. Even if he is not financially embarrassed when he starts work, he has, as a rule, no monetary reserve and he may be, in consequence, compelled to contract, at the commencement of his service, a fresh debt of a month and a half's wages, generally taken on a high rate of interest. A number of employers endeavour to minimize the hardship involved by the grant of advances, but this practice is by no means general, and even where the advance represents wages that have actually been earned, interest is occasionally charged on it. Cases have come to the notice of the Government of India where workers were compelled to strike in order to secure wages which had been held back for unreasonable periods ; in one such case, where over three weeks had elapsed from the close of the month, the strikers were dismissed : in another case, the workers went on strike over five weeks after the end of the month for which they wanted their wages.

4. It has been suggested that, as the evil is particularly associated with monthly payments, employers should be compelled to adopt shorter periods of payment. This was, in fact, one of the arguments put forward in support of Mr. Chaman Lall's Weekly Payments Bill, which was

* Bulletins of Indian Industries and Labour, No. 34. Periods of Wage Payment.

referred to local Governments for consideration. But the Bill met with general opposition. The Government of India, after reviewing the opinions received on it, were compelled to oppose its consideration in the Legislative Assembly and the motion for consideration of the Bill was finally withdrawn by its sponsor.

5. The Government of India do not think that any Bill of this kind is likely to receive the support of public opinion or to prove effective in its operation. While they should not be regarded as accepting the views that the general system of monthly payments is a satisfactory one, they believe that an attempt to impose by legislation a radically different system would have little chance of success and might do considerable harm. They recognize—and they believe that local Governments will agree with this view—that if the abuses to which they have referred above can be checked or eliminated by legislation, it is the duty of Government to introduce such legislation. But they are inclined to think that legislation if it is regarded as desirable will have to be attempted on somewhat different lines if it is to have a reasonable prospect of successful working. The details of a fresh scheme are set out provisionally in the paragraphs that follow and I am to ask for the views of the local Government both on the advisability of adopting some scheme of this kind, and on the detailed provisions contemplated.

6. The Government of India propose to set statutory limits to the time within which wages must be paid. To begin with, at any rate, they consider that it would be unwise to attempt to do more than prevent the more obvious abuses, and in the case of wages paid on a monthly system (or any longer basis), it might be sufficient to prescribe that they must ordinarily be paid within a week of the close of the month. It may be desirable to allow some relaxation in the case of bonuses earned by a long period, *e.g.*, a year, of work, but it will be difficult, and possibly dangerous, to discriminate between bonuses and wages. It could, if desired, be left to the employer, subject to the approval of the local Government, to fix the date on which the month should commence, which need not necessarily be the first day of the calendar month. As regards payments on shorter periods than a month, the evidence available indicates that there is less need for legislation, but I am to ask for the views of the local Government on the suggestion that corresponding limitations might be imposed, *e.g.*, in the case of fortnightly wages, four days delay might be allowed, in the case of weekly wages, two days and in the case of daily wages, a day. Wages might be limited to cash payments ; but it seems undesirable to do anything that might encourage payment in kind, and a distinction is possibly unnecessary. It would probably be advisable to give local Governments, in all cases, the power to grant exemptions where special (and defined) circumstances, *e.g.*, the distance of the worker from the headquarters, rendered this necessary. The difficulties arising out of the fact that in some cases, for instance when wages are paid at piece rates, intricate evaluations may be required to calculate wages might be met by prescribing that, in such cases, the payment, within the statutory period, of 75 per cent. (or some higher percentage) of the wages earned should constitute compliance with the law.

7. The main difficulty in regard to legislation of this kind arises in connection with its enforcement. It would be possible, and seems to be desirable, to provide for the prompt recovery of wages by some form of summary procedure, *e.g.*, in a manner similar to that prescribed in the Employers' and Workmen's Disputes Act, IX of 1860. It would also be necessary to provide for some fine, part of which might be payable to the workmen injured, for the offence. The maximum fine on a first conviction might be small, with larger penalties for subsequent offences. But provisions of this kind will not be sufficient to secure the end in view, for the workman would seldom be in a position to use the power so conferred on him. The employer who is prosecuted could pay the wages and dismiss the workman, and it would be impossible to prevent by law dismissals of this kind. Other reasons could always be put forward as the ostensible grounds of any dismissal and the result would be constant disputes. And even when the workman did not apprehend reprisals, it would seldom be worth his while to institute proceedings with the object of obtaining a single month's wages a short period before the date when he would receive them without invoking external assistance. The grant to any number of workmen in the same establishment of the power to join in one proceeding might meet some of the difficulties in part, but it would not be sufficient. Quite apart from the difficulties inherent in the joint conduct of proceedings by numerous complainants, the fear of victimisation and the large amount of inconvenience necessary to secure a very small advantage to each workman would be sufficient to prevent action in most cases. The Government of India consider that, if the enforcement of the law is to depend on the initiative of the workmen themselves, the Act will fail to achieve its object. If this conclusion is accepted, it seems essential that the power to prosecute should be granted to some external authority, such as an inspecting staff. The difficulties in the way of the workmen would be removed by such a provision, and the conduct of prosecutions instituted by inspecting officials would be free from serious administrative difficulty.

8. This has a close bearing on the important question of the scope of the measure. In the case of factories and mines, there are already in existence inspecting officers who have experience of the institution of prosecutions, and who could safely be entrusted with the enforcement of the Act. If the measure was to be extended to establishments which are not subject either to the Factories Act or the Mines Act, it might be impossible to render it effective without the employment of a special staff, and even with such a staff, its enforcement would be attended by serious difficulty. Further, the evidence before the Government of India indicates that the evil is particularly associated with the larger industrial establishments, where the work involved in the calculation of wages is heaviest and where the presence of intermediaries between the workmen and the management and other circumstances tend to aggravate delays. In the small establishments lying outside the scope of the Factories and Mines Acts, there are no serious abuses such as would justify not merely the introduction of legislation but the establishment of new and special machinery for its enforcement. On all grounds, therefore,

the Government of India are inclined to the view that the measure should be confined, in its operation, to those establishments which are subject to the operation of the Factories Act or the Mines Act; but this is a point on which they would be glad to have the opinion of the local Government.

9. I am to request that, after consulting the interests concerned, a reply may be sent to this letter not later than 1st January 1927. The Government of India contemplate the publication of the replies."

Family Allowances in France

The Sixth Congress of the Union of Industrial Societies of France was held at Nancy from 1st to 3rd June last, under the chairmanship of Mr. Antoine Daum, glass manufacturer.

Following on a report by Mr. P. Fauvet on family allowances and equalisation funds, the following resolution was adopted:

The Congress of Industrial Societies of France pays a tribute to the work accomplished since 1918 by French employers in connection with family allowances;

Whereas the results hitherto attained have been achieved because nothing has interfered with private initiative;

Whereas also the system of family allowances and equalisation funds cannot exist or develop unless it is based on principles which are sufficiently elastic to allow it to conform with the exigencies of local conditions and occupations;

And whereas, finally, it is desirable that these important social institutions should as far as possible become general;

The Congress recommends:

(1) That no legislative measure should hinder the development of equalisation funds for family allowances, in view of the fact that results hitherto obtained by French employers under a voluntary system are the best guarantee for the future of an institution for the success of which every good Frenchman should hope;

(2) That, in any case, legislation should respect the position of equalisation funds which were in operation before the promulgation of such legislation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 19, 1926.*)

Questions in the Legislature

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. N. M. Joshi: (*a*) Is it a fact that the Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra had undertaken in his closing speech during the discussion on the Maternity Benefits Bill, to enquire into the question of the prohibition

of employment of women in factories, mines and other organised industries, some time before and some time after confinement and of the provision of the Maternity Benefits?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken or propose to take to institute such an enquiry?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: Will the Government of India be pleased to state when the Trade Union Act will come into force?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The Act will come into force after the necessary regulations have been framed and published by local Governments. It is hoped that it will be possible to bring it into force on 1st April 1927.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: (*a*) Will the Government of India be pleased to state whether they have so far issued any report on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act?

(*b*) If they have not, are they prepared to issue an annual report on the working of this Act?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative and to the second in the affirmative.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: Is it a fact that the labour conditions in Japan adversely affect the position of certain industries in India, and if so, do the Government propose to take steps to secure and publish authentic information regarding the labour conditions in that country?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The Government of India are not in possession of precise information relating to the first part of the question. The answer to the second part is in the negative.

Mr. S. C. Ghose: (*a*) Will the Government state why time has been granted to the local administration till the 1st March 1927 to send information as regards the question of deductions from the wages of workmen in respect of fines?

(*b*) Will the Government state if three months' time was not sufficient for sending information?

(*c*) After the receipt of information on the 1st March 1927, will the Government state how many months will it take for the Government to take steps, if any, for stopping this practice on the part of employers?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (*a*) The Government of India considered it desirable to allow local Governments ample time to consult the interests concerned.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) I am quite unable to say. The question of the steps to be taken must obviously depend upon the nature of the information received by the Government of India in reply to their letter.

Questions in Parliament

The following questions were asked and answers given in the British House of Commons on 14th July 1926 :—

Mr. Johnston (Labour), on behalf of Mr. R. Young (Labour), asked the Under Secretary of State for India whether, in view of the statements made at the last Conference of the International Labour Organisation with regard to the superiority of labour conditions in India over those in Japan and China, the Secretary of State would suggest to the International Labour Organisation that a conference on this subject should be held between the representatives of India, Japan and China, similar to the conference recently held in London between certain European Powers, to consider the question of labour conditions and, in particular, of the hours of labour.

Earl Winterton (Under Secretary of State for India) replied that the Secretary of State (Earl Birkenhead) would transmit the suggestion to the Government of India for an expression of their views.

Mr. Johnston : Is the noble lord aware that India is the only country in the world which honoured its signature at the Washington Convention (Conference ?), and that India is subject to extraordinary competition from a country which has refused to honour its signature ?

Earl Winterton : I am aware of that most important fact, though I cannot accept the statement entirely in the form in which the honourable Member made it.

Mr. Johnston : Why not ?

Earl Winterton : For reasons which it would be impossible to explain in answer to a question. I sympathise entirely with the point of view the honourable Member put, but that is quite a different matter from doing what the question asks that the Government of India shall do, that is, to be responsible for suggesting that these friendly foreign Powers should take part in a conference. The matter is receiving the consideration of the Government of India and is also under the purview of the International Labour Bureau. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.*)

Child Labour in England

Many of the provisions of the new Factory Bill will be welcomed, notably the abolition of the present distinction between factories and workshops and textile and non-textile factories and the limitation of the hours of work for women and young persons to 48 a week. On the other hand, the fact that a working day of ten hours is permissible, that 100 hours of overtime may be allowed in 12 months, or six hours in one week, that special provision is made empowering the Secretary of State to permit additional overtime up to 50 hours in 12 months and three hours a week to young persons over sixteen and to women, is open to grave criticism. The ordinary overtime will permit a day of 11 hours to be worked. Effort should be made to prohibit overtime for all young people between fourteen

and eighteen years. It is of little avail to urge the value of continued education unless the working day is of such reasonable length that it is possible for boys and girls to attend an evening institute. The Bill does nothing to help large classes of young people whose employment is not subjected at present to any form of restriction, such as young cinema attendants, page-boys in hotels and restaurants, messenger, van, and errand boys. The organizations interested in the welfare of young people will do well to strive for an extension of the scope of the Bill. The London County Council has been concerned for years about the long hours worked by young people in shops, hotels, and restaurants, and a few years ago pressed the Home Secretary to introduce legislation to deal with the matter.

The value of careful medical inspection of school children employed out of school hours may also be gathered from facts and figures submitted in the same report on the London school medical service. During 1925, 3845 applicants were seen, of whom only 61 were girls. In 106 cases certificates of health were refused, and of these, 30 were denied on grounds of general debility and 14 on account of heart defect. In 311 other cases conditional certificates were granted, 205 being subject to medical treatment being obtained and 106 upon other conditions, which included periodical re-examination, limitation in regard to weights carried, additional nourishment, and provision of proper boots. The certificate was withdrawn in two cases after issue, in one instance because the boy was found to be carrying coal to flats three storeys high, and in another because the child's school work suffered. The ratio of employment of boys is just over six per cent. and this is not high. The real trouble is with boys just over school age who are often burdened with work that necessarily involves heart strain and spinal curvature. Among the special inquiries made last year by the London County Council's medical department was the investigation carried out in association with the National Institute of Psychology into the vocational capacity as recorded by physique and general health of children about to leave school. Dr. Nairn Dobbie saw 237 boys and girls, all within a few months of fourteen years, between March and Christmas, 1925. In addition to a clinical division of the children into three categories of " robust," " average " and " delicate," as an assessment of nutrition, and deductions from weight, height, and girth, a medical form was filled in giving " occupational contra-indications negativing work in individual cases which involved respectively either standing, sitting, good sight, climbing, dusty atmosphere, good hearing, damp, exposure, dry hands, cold, heat, nervous strain, muscular strain, and indoor work." If it were possible in all cases to give the same careful attention to the physical condition of children seeking employment, there seems little doubt that the loss of working days due to invalidity, which is at present so frequent a condition among adults, would greatly diminish in the future, and there would be in consequence a valuable increase in the industrial efficiency of the nation. The urgent question at the present time is the overworking of children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen by small employers. (*From " Times Educational Supplement," London, August 21, 1926.*)

Social Legislation in Japan

SUMMARY OF RECENT MEASURES

In the last few months a considerable number of labour laws and ordinances have been enacted in Japan. Some of them represent entirely new legislation, while others are amendments of existing laws. In some cases the legislation purports to enforce laws which give effect to International Labour Conventions. In one case the measure includes provision for the re-organisation of the administrative department concerned, in order to give a more concentrated attention to the affairs of the International Labour Organisation.

Reference has been made to most of these laws from time to time, in the course of their progress, in previous numbers of *Industrial and Labour Information*. Now that they are either definitely brought into operation or formally embodied in Acts of Parliament, it may be opportune to summarise them briefly. The following notes deal with the various Acts and Ordinances in the order of their promulgation :

Life Insurance Act

The so-called " Simple Life Insurance Act " of 1916 established a scheme to simplify life insurance for people of small means by State intervention, the Government acting as the insurance carrier, and the administrative work being carried out by the post offices. The amount insured was originally limited to 200 *yen*, but was raised to 250 *yen* in 1922, when the Act was amended. Now, by an Act of 24th March 1926, enforced as from 1st May, the amount has been further increased to 450 *yen*.

Health Insurance Acts

Japan enacted an elaborate scheme of national health insurance in 1922, but the law has not been in force owing to various difficulties. A new Act, promulgated on 27th March 1926, provided for the enforcement of the law as from 1st July 1926 and for the payment of benefits as from 1st January 1927. It has been estimated that over 1,500,000 workers in some 26,000 factories, and some 322,000 miners in over 800 mines, will be covered by this law.

Another Act, promulgated on 27th March 1926, contains detailed provisions for the establishment of a special account for national health insurance. This Act comes into effect on 1st January 1927, when the payment of benefits begins.

Post Office Pensions Acts

By two Acts, promulgated on 29th March 1926, the Government undertakes to pay annual pensions up to a maximum amount of 2,400 *yen*, in return for regular contributions, the scheme being conducted through the machinery of the post offices.

Co-operative Society Act

A Co-operative Society Act was passed as early as 1900. Since then the co-operative movement in Japan has developed rapidly, and the law has become obsolete in various respects. An amending Act, promulgated on 6th April 1926, provides, among other things, for an enlargement

of the sphere of operation of certain " utility societies," permitting them to place their equipment at the disposal of non-members. It also extends the privileges of co-operative societies by exempting them from the business-profit taxes and local taxes of certain kinds.

Labour Disputes Arbitration Act

The Act was promulgated on 8th April 1926, and was due to come into operation on 1st July of this year.

Re-organisation of Social Affairs Bureau

No separate Department of Labour exists as yet in Japan ; but in 1922 there was created, in the Home Department, a Bureau of Social Affairs, which for all essential purposes has the same standing as a Ministry or Department of Labour. The bringing into force of the Health Insurance Act and the Labour Disputes Arbitration Act, and the increase of work in connection with the International Labour Organisation, have necessitated a re-organisation of the Social Affairs Bureau.

During May, Imperial Ordinances were issued providing for (1) the creation of an "Insurance Division" in the Bureau of the administration of the Health Insurance Acts ; (2) an increase in the staff of the Bureau, by the appointment of a number of " arbitration officers " and " assistant arbitration officers " to administer the Arbitration Act ; and (3) the division of the former " Labour Section " of the Bureau into two parts, one of which would deal with affairs connected with the International Labour Organisation.

Public Peace Police (Amendment) Act

Sections 17 and 30 of the Public Peace Police Act, which had been severely criticised by Japanese workers as obstacles to the freedom of trade unions, have been repealed by an Act dated 8th April 1926, which was promulgated in the *Offical Gazette* on the following day and was due to come into force on 1st July.

Minimum Age Act
Factory Act (Amendment) Act
Amended Mines Regulations

The Minimum Age of Industrial Workers Act and the Factory Act (Amendment) Act were enacted in 1923, but owing to various circumstances their enforcement has been delayed. It is now reported that they were brought into operation on 1st July 1926.

These Acts represent a considerable advance in Japanese labour legislation. It is estimated, for example, that by the enforcement of the amended Factory Act, over 19,000 factories employing more than 142,000 workers in all (including 38,000 women and 2800 young workers) are brought for the first time under official supervision and control.

The Regulations relating to conditions of employment of miners, which deal with working hours, night work, rest periods, protection of mothers, accident compensation, etc., have been amended to conform with the amended Factory Act. The amended Regulations were also to be enforced as from 1st July 1926. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.*)

Japanese Textile Trades

EFFECTS OF NEW FACTORY LAW

The new Factory Law came into force on 1st July, and under it the working day in factories is limited to ten hours. Textile factories are chiefly affected, and these employ a very large proportion of women. Concerning male workers it might be said that, in spite of the advent of hard times, they hardly need any law to protect them from overwork, as they are always ready to assert their independence. But they may not always be able to afford their present readiness to throw up a job or their habitual 10 per cent. of absences. Some of the cotton-spinning mills—all the best ones, it would be safe to say—already work ten hours, but have two shifts, so that there are four hours a day for the factory to be cleaned up and the machines put in order. The worst-managed mills have hitherto worked in two shifts of eleven hours. It is believed that these will all have to adopt the ten-hour day, and unless the management is incompetent they ought not to lose by it. For the present the prohibition of night-work (between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.) is a question that has been put off for further consideration. That would reduce the working hours to eight, and the experience of one or two of the best-managed mills, whose managers want to combine the difficult task of doing their best both for workpeople and shareholders, is that the output is susceptible of very little speeding-up in an eight-hour day. Many people believe, and there seems to be some evidence for it, that the Asiatic worker prefers an easy pace and long hours to high tension and shorter hours.

According to the Japanese papers, the mills which feel the new Factory Law most are those which do weaving only. They have been in the habit of working twelve to fifteen hours, and a sharp reduction to ten hours might prove a hardship. The owners represent it as a hardship that will fall chiefly on the workpeople, as they are on piecework; but at least it would afford opportunity for an experimental speeding-up. Of late years the most remarkable development in the textile trade has been the increased export of cloth compared with that of yarn. The following are the exports of cotton yarn and cloth :—

	Yarn	Cloth
	Yen	Yen
1918	158,300,000	237,913,000
1919	114,232,000	280,388,000
1920	152,394,000	334,966,000
1921	80,568,000	211,077,000
1922	114,723,000	222,052,000
1923	78,512,000	234,574,000
1924	109,611,000	326,587,000
1925	123,117,000	432,850,000
1926 (6 months)	45,479,000	213,735,000

Although the new law is nominally enforced, the press states that as the authorities fully appreciate the situation they will wait until the necessary

adjustments have been made before applying any rigour in the enforcement. It cannot be said that there is any indecent haste in factory reform. The old law was passed in 1911 and put into effect (with exceptions in favour of textile factories) in 1916; the new law was passed in 1923, and is only gradually going into effect now. That is Japan's own affair, of course, only it may be remarked that laws still await enforcement are often quoted officially or semi-officially as evidence of actual conditions.

The development that has caused most comment is the invasion of the Indian market by Japanese goods made of Indian cotton. There is a higher degree of skill in Japan and a higher standard of honesty in management, but the Indian complainants are within the limits of fact when they complain that cottons are carried in subsidised Japanese ships and that the Japanese mills work two shifts. The Japanese are somewhat alarmed at the agitation in India for protection, and are even apprehensive that an export duty might be put on Indian cotton; and, like the British spinners, they would like to be free from dependence on a particular market. Some years ago they went in for cotton cultivation in Korea, and this was hailed abroad as a swift and certain Japanese victory; but its success has not brought independence in sight. Now it is announced that the Mitsubishi Company, having acquired a large tract of land in Chihli and Honan provinces, raised 5000 piculs of cotton experimentally last year and will plant American cotton on a large scale. There is also an interesting project on the Upper Amazon in which the Kanegafuchi Company is participating. The object of this venture is not only to provide cotton but to create an outlet for Japanese emigration. Other signs of activity are the subsidising of lines to East Africa and Turkey, and perhaps to Persia also; the East African and Turkish lines hope to bring raw cotton home and carry it back manufactured. (*From "Manchester Guardian Commercial," August 26, 1926.*)

Poor Relief in Japan

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The Bureau of Social Affairs of the Japanese Government has drafted a Bill for the relief of the poor, with a view to its presentation to the Diet.

The Bill, it is stated, is intended to supplement the social insurance system and to bring up to date the scheme of poor relief in Japan, which is described as obsolete.

The present administration of poor relief, it may be explained, is regulated by a Government Order of 1874 which covered:—

(1) Destitute and invalid persons who are single or may be regarded as single;

(2) Single persons (or persons who may be regarded as single) above 70 years of age, who are either seriously ill or enfeebled by age;

(3) Single persons (or persons who may be regarded as single) who are unable to earn their living owing to illness; and

(4) Helpless persons under thirteen years of age.

The main provisions of the proposed Poor Relief Bill are as follows :

Administration

The existing administrative organs and their jurisdiction are re-arranged. Relief Commissions are to be set up by (1) towns and villages, (2) prefectures, and (3) the State.

Indoor Relief

Old and bedridden people who have no relatives to look after them are to be placed in institutions.

Outdoor Relief

(1) Old people and widows with children are to be provided with relief at home by the grant of cash, or food, clothing, fuel, etc.

(2) Old persons may be placed, subject to prescribed conditions, under the care of selected families.

(3) An old age pension is to be paid, either in part or wholly from the State Treasury, to old and invalid persons, subject to specified conditions as to age, health, capacity, income, record of offences (if any), etc.

Medical Relief

Municipal bodies, or the State, will provide medical relief for destitute sick persons, in the form either of free treatment by doctors specially appointed for the purpose, or of a money grant to defray medical expenses.

Protection of Poor Children

(1) Orphans and deserted children who are in a helpless condition are to be placed either in institutions or in families.

(2) Children who are under the care of widows or deserted wives, and children who are destitute though they have parents, are to be given relief either at home or in institutions.

Temporary Relief

Work may be provided temporarily for poor persons who are able to work. Help may be given at time of childbirth.

Relief of the Insane

This may also be provided.

The following table shows the approximate number of people who received relief in 1924, under the existing system :—

	Number of persons	Yen
Invalidity	1,430	51,462,000
Old Age	4,132	113,386,000
Sickness	3,384	99,257,000
Feeble children	1,994	155,619,000
Others	625	8,321,000

It should be noted that the number of persons shown as receiving aid in 1924 includes some who had begun to receive aid in the preceding year or years. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.*)

Trade Union Legislation in Italy

The Administrative Regulation in execution of the new Italian Trade Union Act of 3rd April 1926 on the legal organisation of collective labour relations is divided into eight parts.

Part I which deals with the primary trade union associations lays down that these associations may be composed not only of Italian citizens of either sex, who have attained their majority, who are of good moral and political conduct from the national point of view and who possess the other qualifications required by the Act, but also commercial associations legally constituted and other corporate bodies of Italian nationality. Foreigners resident in Italy for at least ten years may be admitted as associate members of legally authorised Trade Union Associations but cannot be appointed or elected to any directive or administrative functions. Intellectual workers and manual workers may not belong to the same association even if they are employed in the same class of undertaking. Technical or administrative managers, office or departmental chiefs and responsible staff of any kind must form separate associations affiliated to the employers' associations of the higher degree. Co-operative societies must form special associations distinct from the similar associations of employers or workers.

Sections 11 and 12 of the Regulation provided a solution for the problem of relations between the various professional orders, colleges and associations and the corresponding Trade Union Associations. Trade Union Associations may be legally authorised side by side with existing professional orders. The Act of 3rd April 1926 preserves these latter, but only the former are concerned with the defence of the moral and material interests of the classes of persons whom they represent.

As regards legal recognition it may be refused to any Trade Union Association not only when the conditions prescribed in the Act are not fulfilled but also when such recognition appears to be inopportune for political, economic or social reasons. Recognition may also be made conditional on certain modifications in the statutes being made. Government further reserves the right, if necessary *ex-officio*, to order the revision of the statutes of legally recognised associations.

Part II of the Regulation deals with trade union associations of the higher degree, *i.e.*, Federations and Confederations. Such bodies are governed as regards their legal recognition, organisation and administration by provisions similar to those laid down for associations of the first degree. Recognition of a Trade Union Association of the higher degree implies recognition of all its dependent associations.

According to Section 41, legal recognition may be granted to the following national confederations, of which each one must include more than one federation or national association, or more than one federation or local confederation of trade union associations :

(*a*) *Employers*

A national confederation of manufacturers ;
" " " " agriculturists ;
" " " " commercial employers ;

A national confederation of employers in maritime and aerial transport ;
" " " " employers in land transport and internal navigation ;
" " " " bankers.

(*b*) *Workers*

A national confederation of salaried employees and wage-earners in industry ;
" " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in agriculture ;
" " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in commerce ;
" " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in maritime and aerial transport ;
" " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in land transport and internal navigation ;
" " " " bank employees.

(*c*) *Independent Workers*

A national confederation of artists and of persons engaged in liberal professions.

Section 41 also provides for the possibility of the legal recognition of two " general confederations," one for employers and the other for salaried employees and wage-earners and independent workers.

Other national or general confederations may, if necessary, be recognised by Royal Decree, after consultation with the Council of Ministers and the National Council of Corporations.

Part III of the Regulation deals with the Central Corporate Liaison Organisations. The National Trade Union Organisations of the various agents of production may be constituted into a corporation by a decree of the Minister of Corporations. This form of corporation has no legal personality but is an administrative organ of the State. The expenditure involved in the working of the corporate organs falls upon the State which meets such expenditure out of that portion of trade union contributions, which falls to it. Some of the duties of the corporate organs are to settle disputes between the associations which they include, to establish general regulations for conditions of labour, to promote, encourage and subsidize the steps taken by the Trade Union Associations, to co-ordinate and improve the organisation of production and also to set up employment exchanges and draw up regulations concerning apprenticeship.

Part IV of the Regulation deals with collective labour agreements. These agreements must indicate the undertaking or undertakings or the class of undertakings or workers to which they relate and also the district for which they are valid. Collective labour agreements must, if they are to be valid, be signed by the legal representatives of the contracting associations or by persons especially authorised to that effect.

Part V of the Regulation deals with disputes concerning collective labour agreements. The right of bringing an action in the event of a dispute

concerning a collective labour agreement belongs to the associations of the first degree or of the higher degree which are legally recognised. The right may also be exercised by the public prosecutor when the public interest demands it. Similarly the Trade Union Association of the higher degree may at any time intervene if it is concerned in an action brought by one of the associations of the first degree attached to it or *vice versa*. The awards and orders of the Industrial Courts are not ordinarily subject to appeal. Nonetheless, the parties and the public prosecutor may ask the Industrial Court which pronounces the award to revise it but only if there has been a considerable change in the *de facto* situation. If the demand for revision is rejected, the party which has submitted it is liable to a fine.

Part VI of the Regulation deals with associations of persons employed by the State or by public institutions. Where the Act permits associations of this kind they may be authorised by decree of the Head of the Government in agreement with the Minister of the Interior and other Ministers concerned, or by decree of the Minister of the Interior or of the Prefect according to circumstances.

These associations may at any time be dissolved when their activity is incompatible with the good order and discipline of the services concerned. Infringement of the order for dissolution is regarded as a grave disciplinary offence and punished with dismissal. Associations of students for the defence of so-called scholastic or professional interests are forbidden. The formation of such associations and membership of them are considered as grave disciplinary offences and are punished by exclusion from all schools and all educational establishments in the kingdom.

Part VII of the Regulation deals with infringement of the Act or the Regulations and the penal sanctions.

Part VIII contains various transitory provisions.

When the above Regulation was approved by the Council of Ministers, Mr. Mussolini, the Prime Minister, issued the following proclamation :—

" Now that the Legislative Regulation for the enforcement of the Trade Union Act is approved, the corporate organisation of the State is a *fait accompli*. The democratic, liberal, agnostic and incompetent State has ceased to exist, and its place is taken by the Fascist State.

" For the first time in the history of the world there has been achieved by us a constructive revolution carried out peacefully in the sphere of production and labour, involving the grouping of all the economic and intellectual forces of the nation for their direction towards a common end.

" For the first time there has been set up a powerful system of fifteen large associations, all on a basis of equality, all recognised and all enjoying the guarantee that their interests will be protected in so far as they are legitimate or reconcilable with those of the Sovereign State. It is only today that the working population has become, under the aegis of the Fascist State, a group conscious of its destiny."

(Abstracted from " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.)

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Returns for Third Quarter 1926

AN INCREASE OF 12 PER CENT. IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926. The latest information for the third quarter of the present year is summarised in three tables on pages 80 to 95 of this issue. Table I gives the names of the Federations or Associations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the names of the principal office-bearers of each Federation, and the names of the affiliated Unions in each case. Table II gives, by localities or centres, the names of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the number of members in each Union and the names and addresses of the principal office-bearers. Table III shows the rates of membership fees for different classes of members, the average monthly income for the latest quarter for which information is available and the average monthly expenditure for each of the Unions given in Table II.

The outstanding features during the quarter under review are :—

(1) The conversion of those District branches of the G.I.P. Railway Staff Union which were still operating as registered separate Unions and the reorganisation of the main Union into a Federation of these District Unions ;

(2) The formation of a big Union of Dock Workers in the Bombay Port Trust Docks, the revival of the moribund Union of the workers of the Port Trust Railway and the formation of a Central Union or Federation of these two Unions together with the old Bombay Port Trust Workshop Union ;

(3) A decision arrived at by the Indian Seamen's Union, formerly confined more or less to Goanese Saloon Crews, to admit all classes of seamen as members, and the registration of nearly 6,000 Serangs, Tindals, Khalasis, etc., as its members ;

(4) The closing down of the Colaba Girni Kamgar Mahamandal ; and

(5) A general increase of 12·14 per cent. in the membership of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency. The total number of Unions now stands at 56 as compared with 53 reported in the June issue of the *Labour Gazette*, and 38 a year ago. Out of this number there are 22 Unions in Bombay City, 8 Unions in Ahmedabad and 26 in the rest of the Presidency. As compared with the second quarter of the current year, the total number of Trade Unionists in the Bombay Presidency has increased from 64,752 to 72,411. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City rose from 36,528 to 43,746 or by 20 per cent. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions increased from 19,177 to 19,284 and in the Unions in the rest

of the Presidency from 8867 to 9381. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions in the Presidency since June 1922.

Summary Table showing the membership of the Unions

Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
June 1922 ..	22	57,914		Sept 1924..	21	47,242	— 5·0
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	— 8·87	Dec 1924..	36	52,277	+ 10·7
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	— 2·47	Mar 1925..	36	51,625	— 1·25
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	— 5·45	June 1925..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+ 5·08	Sept 1925..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	—18·77	Dec 1925..	38	49,318	— 8·97
Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+10·54	Mar 1926..	51	59,544	+ 20·73
Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5·4	June 1926..	53	64,572	+ 8·44
June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2·5	Sept 1926..	56	72,411	+ 12·14

The information in connexion with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency, including Sind. The information for all the Unions affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association and the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union is procured from time to time from the Head Offices of these associations in Bombay. Every endeavour is made to include in the Quarterly Review all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency but it often happens that some Union or Unions do not notify their existence to the authorities concerned with the collection of the necessary information. It would be advisable both in the interests of the Unions themselves and of the Labour office, if the persons who are concerned with the creation of new Unions notify their formation either to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence (Labour Office) at Bombay or to the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad.

Federations of Labour Unions

Table I on pages 80 and 81 of this issue shows that there are six Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—; (1) The Central Labour Board in Bombay; (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association with its head office in Bombay; (3) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union also with its head office in Bombay; (4) The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union; (5) The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union with its head office in Bombay; and (6) The Labour Union in Ahmedabad. The last is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of Cotton Mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. For all practical purposes, however, it may be considered as a Federation. All the necessary information in connexion with the constitution of the first four Federations and the terms

of affiliation of each of their members have been fully described in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 and March 1926. The constitutions of the two new Federations in Bombay—The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union and the Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union—have not yet been decided upon. In the present article it is only necessary, therefore, to deal with those Federations whose activities were of particular interest during the quarter under review.

The Central Labour Board.—The extensive propaganda carried on by the Central Labour Board in Bombay during the last six months with a view to bring into the fold of Trade Unionism in Bombay City as many of her wage earners as possible, has been very successful in so much as the Board succeeded in organising the workers in the Bombay Docks into a Union and in creating a Federation of the different Unions of the employees under the administration of the Bombay Port Trust.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.—The most important feature in the activities of this Association during the quarter under review was the Sixth Session of the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Conference which was held at Ahmedabad on the 25th and 26th July under the presidentship of Sirdar Mutalik, M.L.A. The Conference discussed various questions in connexion with the disabilities and grievances, pay and prospects, and conditions of service of all grades of Postal and Railway Mail Service employees in the Bombay Presidency, and in particular showed a keen sense of dissatisfaction at the recent revision granted to the clerical establishments in the Post offices at Bombay, town sub-offices and certain Postal offices in its vicinity. Among the more important resolutions which were passed at the Conference were the following :—

"That the omission to include in the revision any improvement in the pay of Overseas, Departmental Branch Post masters, Daftarees, Stamp Vendors, Postmen and men in the inferior service is causing acute discontent.

"This Conference requests that overtime work beyond duty hours due to shortage of staff for more than a week be compensated for by the grant of overtime allowance.

"This Conference requests the Government to issue immediate orders regarding enhanced house rent to postmen and to extend the grant of house rent allowance at such costly places where no house rent allowance is granted at present.

"This Conference protests against the amalgamation of the two Selection Grades in the R.M.S. into a single grade of Rs. 145—5—175—10—225 and requests that two separate grades be re-introduced.

"In view of the high cost of living including house rent at Poona, Ahmedabad and other costly places this Conference prays that an adequate local allowance be sanctioned for the R.M.S. Staff stationed at Poona and Ahmedabad."

In presenting the annual report of the Association to the Conference the Secretary laid particular emphasis on the benefits to be obtained by Unionism and pointed out the more important matters which the Association had been successful in bringing to a satisfactory conclusion by

negotiation with Government. The removal of the Darbar Tax, the equalisation of the Dead Letter office with the General Post Office, the granting of house rents to all Departmental Post Masters in lieu of free quarters, the equalisations of the scales in the Suburbs of Bombay with the scales of the Bombay General Post Office, etc., " are some of the questions in which the representations by the Association were fruitful of happy results."

The Balance Sheet of the Association for the year ending 31st March 1926 shows that the revenue realised during the year in contributions from affiliated Unions amounted to Rs. 8384-13-9 which together with a balance of Rs. 4180-14-11 carried forward from the previous year's account and other miscellaneous revenue brought the total receipts up to Rs. 12,954-2-8. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 7932-11-9, leaving a balance of Rs. 5021-6-11 to be carried forward as a surplus to the credit of the current year's account. The Budget for the year ending 31st March 1927 provides for a total revenue of Rs. 7782-0-0 and an expenditure of Rs. 7587-0-0.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of this Association during the quarter under review. The dissatisfaction of the postmen at having been passed over at the time of the recent revision of pay of the clerical establishments in the Post Offices in Bombay City and its suburbs is still stated to continue and has lessened the interest of members in the doings of their Union.

The Ahmedabad Labour Union.—The Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad states that the normal activities of the Federation as described in detail in previous reviews continued with unabated vigour during the quarter under report. Steps were taken to ascertain the opinions of the members of the Unions in regard to the Housing Programme described in the last review published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926. Workers who have so far recorded their opinion have unanimously accepted the scheme. The activities of the Samaj Sudhar Sangh are progressing steadily. Information is being collected daily about the effect of drink on the individual as well as on the family. Articles are published in the *Majur Sandesh* from time to time on such subjects as the evils of drink, the use of vegetable ghee, aerated waters, etc. The weekly publication of the Union deals with matters relating to labour such as the protection of the Cotton Mill Industry, the system of fines, the payment of wages long after they are due, the cutting of wages for two days when workmen are absent on a Saturday or Monday, etc. The Union is looking forward to a time when there will be no unauthorised strikes and when the present system of recruitment of labour through jobbers and mukadams and the resulting corruption in mills will be substituted by a well organised and well regulated employment bureau which it is hoped will eliminate the chief cause for bribery. It was recently found that the jobbers in one or two mills were obtaining money from the workers under pretence of collecting Union fees. Prompt steps were taken to warn workers of this danger and to put a stop to this practice.

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union.—In June 1923, this Union had 13 branches at stations all along the G.I.P. Railway System and more than 4,500 workers as members. Considerable disorganisation in the membership of these branches was occasioned as the result of retrenchment of staff and transfers from one station to another. The Union found itself in a hopeless condition at the beginning of the current year owing to the fact that there was no adequate revenue to meet necessary expenditure. Owing to heavy pressure of official work, the officers of the Unions could find very little time to attend to the work of the organisation. Subscriptions fell into arrears, and at one time it appeared as if the Union would have to be wound up. Messrs. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, and P. S. Bakhale, however, took an active interest in the work of this Union and together with the Managing Committee have launched a scheme of reorganisation and reconstruction. It has been decided to convert the original District Branches of this Union into separate Unions and to make the main Union into a Federation to which the District Unions will be affiliated. Three separate Unions of the workers on the Staff of the G. I. P. Railway administration have already been formed in Bombay City. These are (1) The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union ; (2) The Wadi Bunder Staff Union ; and (3) The Audit Offices Staff Union. Messrs. Joshi and Bakhale are now taking up the work of reorganising the three branches at Poona, Manmad and Sholapur, which had not entirely ceased to function, into separate Unions.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union.—This Union is an entirely new Federation which has been formed during the quarter under review. As already stated at the beginning of this article it includes (1) the old Union of the employees of the Bombay Port Trust Workshop, (2) the reconstructed Union of the employees of the Bombay Port Trust Railway ; and (3) the new Union recently formed for the Docks' workers. The constitution of the Federation has not yet been decided upon. The Bombay Port Trust Workshop Union still continues to be an affiliated member of the Central Labour Board and it is also a member of the new Federation—an anomalous position which will have to be rectified.

PROGRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY

The Bombay Textile Labour Union.—The membership of this Union rose from 8940 in the previous quarter to 9640 during the quarter under review. 7012 members are reported to have paid their subscriptions up to and for the month of August. The rules of the Union allow the retention of the names of those members who have not paid their fees for six consecutive months, on the membership rolls. The average monthly income for the third quarter of the current year amounted to to Rs. 1573-10-3 and the expenditure during the same period was Rs. 1033-1-0 per month. Cash balances in hand as at 1st September 1926 amounted to Rs. 6953 which must be considered as very satisfactory in view of the fact that this Union has only been in existence for a little over eight months at the time of writing this Review.

Altogether five centres have now been opened : (1) Madanpura ; (2) Kurla ; (3) DeLisle Road ; (4) Chinchpokli ; and (5) Damodar Hall. Membership cards in Urdu and Marathi have been printed and distributed among the members. These cards show the names and addresses of the members, the centres at which they are registered, the official numbers which are assigned to them and records of subscriptions paid under the signature of the Secretary of the Branch. Active propaganda work is being undertaken by the display of big posters at prominent places throughout the mill areas. These posters advertise the formation of the Union, give brief summaries of its work and invite all cotton mill operatives to join the Union. The constitution of the Union has now been framed. The management is vested in a Central Managing Committee. The functions of Central Committees and Mill Committees, which have also been provided for, are purely advisory. The Managing Committee consists of the office-bearers of the Union and representatives of the workers elected by the members in the proportion of one for each 200 members from each mill. Each Central Committee consists of the President and the General Secretary of the Union and the representatives of members from the mills which are attached to the Centre in proportion of one member for each hundred members working in each mill. The Mill Committees consist of the President, the General Secretary, the Secretary of the Centre to which a particular mill is attached and the representatives of that mill in such proportion as may be fixed from time to time by the Managing Committee. The idea underlying this elaborate organisation is to give the workers themselves as great a voice as possible in the conduct of the Union. The objects of the Union are defined as follows :—

"(1) To organise and unite the textile workers in the City, Island and Presidency of Bombay ;

"(2) To secure to its members fair conditions of life and service ;

"(3) To try to redress their grievances ;

"(4) To try to prevent any reduction of wages, and, if possible, to obtain an advance whenever circumstances allow ;

"(5) To endeavour to settle disputes between employers and employees amicably so that a cessation of work may be avoided ;

"(6) To endeavour to provide against sickness, unemployment, infirmity, old age and death ;

"(7) To endeavour to secure compensation for members in cases of accidents under the Workmen's Compensation Act ;

"(8) To provide legal assistance to members in respect of matters arising out of, or incidental to, their employment ;

"(9) To endeavour to render aid to the members during any strike or lockout brought about by the sanction of the Union ;

"(10) To obtain information in reference to the Textile Industry, in India and outside ;

"(11) To co-operate and federate with organisations of labour particularly textile labour, having similar objects, in India and outside ;

"(12) To help, in accordance with the Indian Trade Unions Act, the working classes in India and outside in the promotion of the objects mentioned in this rule; and

"(13) Generally, to take such other steps as may be necessary, to ameliorate the social, educational, economic, civic and political condition of the members."

The most important activity of the Union during the quarter under review was the compilation of the Labour Representation submitted to the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry) and the submission of the Union's replies to the Board's Questionnaire. This representation has been summarised in pages 61 to 66 of this issue.

The Union has taken considerable interest in the adjustment, by conciliatory representation to the mill managements concerned, of grievances submitted to the Union in the form of complaints. Appendix A to the Labour Representation submitted by the Union to the Indian Tariff Board shows that the total number of complaints lodged with the Union office since its inception in January 1926 amounted to 166 of which 51 or a little over 30 per cent. were successfully negotiated with the employers. Twenty-five were unsuccessful, 26 were either dropped or cancelled and 64 are still pending settlement. More than 33 per cent. of the complaints concerned dismissals. There were 21 complaints in respect of fines, 25 in connexion with the withholding of wages, 12 for refusal to re-employment, 5 for gratuities, 9 for compensation, 9 for assaults, 7 for reductions in rates of wages and 24 for miscellaneous reasons. The Union was entirely unsuccessful in arriving at any satisfactory results regarding reductions in rates of wages. Its most successful endeavours were in connexion with the question of withholding of wages and satisfaction in respect of assaults.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.— The number of members standing on the rolls of the Society on the 1st September 1926 amounted to 2231, and showed, in comparison with the previous quarter, an increase of two members. The following table shows the distribution of the members over the various railways in India:—

Railway Administration	Class of Members					Total number of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
G. I. P. Railway	826	65	42	34	46	1,013
B. B. & C. I. Railway ..	73	10	14	23	28	148
M. & S. M. Railway ..	46	37	29	120	59	291
S. I. Railway	53	4	11	5	10	83
N. W. Railway	96	5	8	13	1	123
N. G. S. Railway	26	27	28	73	13	167
E. I. Railway	191	..	4	26	1	222
O. & R. Railway	19	15	..	..	..	34
Other Railways ..	56	14	28	43	9	150
Total ..	1,386	177	164	337	167	2,231

The numbers of members of different classes shown against each Railway are members who definitely belong to one or the other of the fifty-two branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. The number of members of the rolls of the Society's Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund amounted to 1528 as on the 31st July 1926. The Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund had 100 members and the Family Benefit Fund 430 members on the same date. The average monthly income during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 2500 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 2425.

The Indian Seamen's Union.—The number of members of this Union increased from 11,597 to 14,973. In the last Quarterly Review which was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926, it was pointed out that the figure of 11,597 shown as the number of members of this Union for the second quarter of the current year was the same as the figure given for the first quarter because it was not known as to how many members of this Union had joined the new Seamen's Union and also as to how many members of the latter were new Trade Unionists. The Secretary of the Union now states that the actual number of members belonging to the class of Goanese Saloon Crew now stands at 8975 and that about 2600 members of the old Union must have registered themselves as members of the new Union. It would therefore be more correct to say that the number of members of the Indian Seamen's Union increased from about 9000 for the second quarter to about 15,000 or by more than 65 per cent. during the quarter under review. This large increase in membership is due to the admission of Indian Deck and Engine Crews as members of the Union. The Union has been carrying on extensive propaganda work during the last three months in order to make the Union thoroughly representative of all classes of seamen and has succeeded in registering 5968 Khalasis, Serangs, Tindals, etc., as members.

The most noteworthy feature in connexion with the Indian Seamen's Union during the whole course of its history was the judgment delivered by the Acting Chief Presidency Magistrate on the 18th August 1926 in the case where Mr. J. J. Athaide, a pleader of the High Court and the President of this Union, was charged with criminal breach of trust and forgery in respect of bonds worth about Rs. 18,000. Mr. Athaide was compeletely exonerated and it was held that the prosecution had failed utterly in making out even a *prima facie* case. The prosecution contended that Mr. Athaide had misappropriated an amount of Rs. 18,000 for his own use, whereas the management stated that the amount had been spent for financing the strike (a non-co-operation movement with the Government Shipping Brokers) of the year 1925. The Magistrate, in the course of his judgment, quoted a resolution passed at a meeting of the Indian Seamen's Union by virtue of which Mr. J. J. Athaide was authorised to act independently of the other Directors, and held that the money which was stated to have been misappropriated was spent *bona fide* for the purpose of the strike and picketing.

The Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 2900 to 4000 or by 38 per cent. during the last three months. The

average monthly income amounted to Rs. 1138 and the expenditure to Rs. 780. The management of the Union is vested in a committee of fifteen members elected by representative Goanese Village Clubs in Bombay City. Mr. L. Pereira of the P. & O. Office was elected as President and Mr. Marcelin Crus as Secretary. The officers of the Union state that they have been successful in securing services for 3800 members during the last six months and this is not surprising in view of the fact that all orders for Goanese Saloon Crew have been forwarded to the new Union by the Government Shipping Brokers since the formation of this Union. A movement to re-combine the two Seamen's Unions has been set on foot. Mr. J. P. Lobo, B.A., LL.B., who acted as Secretary of this Union since its inception has now resigned his appointment and he only acts in an advisory capacity.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandals.—The Colaba Mahamandal ceased functioning during the quarter under review owing to several resignations from the members who work in the Colaba Land and Mill Company's Mills. The few members of this Mahamandal who did not resign were transferred to the Prabhadevi Mandal. Mr. Bhatavadekar's Chinchpokli Mandal has been in a state of inanition owing to the fact that Mr. Bhatavadekar himself has been out of employment for nearly six months and this conflicts with the principle of all the Mahamandals in Bombay which prescribes that all the office-bearers and the members of the Girni Kamgar Mahamandals should be active workers in Cotton Textile Mills. Mr. Bhatavadekar is now stated to be contemplating retirement from the field of active Trade Unionism and it is possible that he may agree to a fusion of his Mandal with the Mahamandals at Prabhadevi and Ghorupdev which are controlled, more or less, by Mr. Mayekar. In the event of this scheme materialising, the constitution of the three remaining Mahamandals will closely follow that of the Bombay Textile Labour Union—centres in different mill localities with the management and control vested in an apex Union—and not that of a Federation where each Centre or Branch is a distinct Union managing its own affairs and affiliated to a central organisation. Although the Prabhadevi and the Ghorupdev Mahamandals nominally continue as separate entities, the finance of these two Unions is centralised at the Prabhadevi Mahamandal.

The number of members of the Prabhadevi Mahamandal rose from 1321 to 1795 and in the Ghorupdev Mahamandal fell from 427 to 424. The Mahamandals are very strict in their returns of membership—the numbers returned representing members who have paid all subscriptions right up to the month for which the returns are made. The average monthly income of the Prabhadevi Mandal amounted to Rs. 343 and the expenditure to Rs. 186 and of the Ghorupdev Mandal to Rs. 102 and Rs. 77 respectively. The Ghorupdev Mandal has decided to give scholarships to the sons of all mill-hands who pass the Matriculation Examination and who intend to prosecute their studies in Arts Colleges for degree examinations. One such scholarship of Rs. 10 per month has been granted to a student in the Wilson College. This Union has also started a night school which is attended by about forty mill workers.

The number of complaints received during the quarter under review amounted to twelve out of which eight were successfully negotiated with the managements of the mills concerned in each case.

The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.—This Union was formed on the 1st July 1926. Mr. F. J. Ginwalla is the President, Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., is Vice-President and Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas is Honorary Treasurer. Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla is Honorary Secretary. The membership fees are 8 annas per month for clerks and superior staff with an entrance fee of one rupee and 4 annas per month for other adult males with an entrance fee of 8 annas. Boy menials have to pay 2 annas per month without any entrance fee. The number of members registered during the last two months amounted to 1223. The average monthly income amounted to Rs. 555 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 134. The Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust is stated to have promised to give the Union official recognition. He is also stated to have promised to give a sympathetic hearing and to look into all the grievances of the employees which are placed before him.

Government Peons' and Menials' Union.—The number of members of this Union increased from 547 to 579 during the quarter under review. The distribution over different Government offices is as follows :—

New Custom House	136
Income Tax Office	110
High Court	88
Old Custom House	74
Secretariat	59
Accountant General's Office	48
Small Causes Court	40
Public Works Department Secretariat ..	24
Total ..	579

The officials of the Union are very sanguine of obtaining official recognition. The Government of Bombay have refused to accord recognition to the Union in view of the fact that it is controlled by persons who are not in Government service. Government state that the office bearers should be elected from persons who are in active Government service or from the ranks of retired Government servants with the exception of a Paid Secretary who may be an outsider. The Union in their reply to Government have pointed out that the Government of India have recognised outsiders on the working and Advisory Committees of the Postmen's and Telegraphmen's Unions and that a similar concession should be accorded to the Union by the Local Government. It is the intention of the Union to start Unions of Government Peons and Menials throughout the whole of the Bombay Presidency and to convert the Bombay Union into a Federation of the several Mofussil Unions. It also intends to hold a Conference to discuss the grievances and disabilities of Government Peons and Menials particularly with reference to time scales of pay and adequate pensions. The average monthly income of

the Union during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 121 and the expenditure to Rs. 70.

The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.—This Union improved its membership from 264 to 276. The management intend to organise District Unions of Peons in the Telegraph Department and to form a Central Association of these Unions in Bombay in the same manner as the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association. Two branches have already been opened at Belgaum and Poona with 10 and 11 members respectively but these are not functioning as yet as separate Unions. It is stated that as the result of a representation put up by the Union to the Post Master General, Bombay, on the 11th August 1926, the authorities have agreed to provide six additional posts in the superior subordinate Service to be filled by recruitment from the ranks of Telegraph Peons.

The Bombay Currency Association.—The number of members of this Union increased from 216 to 226. The third Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall at Bombay on the 26th June 1926 under the Presidentship of Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. The Currency Officer, Mr. Murphy, was present together with the Assistant Currency Officers and the Treasurer of the Currency Office. The statements of accounts submitted to the meeting showed that collections of subscriptions and donations brought in Rs. 644-12-0 during the year ending 31st March 1926 which together with Rs. 653-9-5 brought forward from the previous year's account and Rs. 22-8-0 realised as interest on deposits made a total of Rs. 1320-13-11 on the revenue side. Expenditure accounted for Rs. 500 leaving a balance of Rs. 820-13-11 to be carried forward to the current year's account.

The Remaining Unions in Bombay City.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of the rest of the Bombay Unions. The G.I.P. Railway Workmen's Union has added 70 additional members to its rolls and the B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union 102 members. The Clerks' Union reports a membership of 903. The latest information in connexion with the membership, income and expenditure of those Unions not specially dealt with in this review is given in Tables II and III, printed on pages 82 to 95 of this issue.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the six Unions of Cotton Mill Operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been dealt with under the heading "Federations of Trade Unions."

The B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Association.—This Union shows a slightly increased membership during this quarter: 6000 as at 1st June, 6049 as at the 1st September. The Secretary of the Union reports that owing to his manifold activities in other directions, he has not been able to devote as much attention to the work of this Union during the last two years as he would otherwise have done. During the quarter under review, however, he visited several different centres with a view to extend the sphere of the Union's activities and to arrange for the collection of arrears of subscriptions. The balance sheets for the last three years have now been prepared and audited but have not yet been placed before a general meeting of its members.

The Poona Post & R.M.S. Union.—This Union is the oldest District Union in the Bombay Presidency and was founded in the year 1919. It incorporated all classes of Postal employees. The postmen and menials of the Postal Department in the Poona Division were the first to create a separate Union of their own. At the beginning of the current year the Railway Mail Service employees in the Poona Division seceded from the parent Union and formed a separate association under the name of the Poona R.M.S.—B Division Union. The membership of the Union therefore fell from 356 to 243. Mr. N. V. Bhonde, B.A., LL.B., is the Secretary of the Postal Union and Mr. V. B. Bhide, B.A., LL.B., is the Secretary of the R.M.S. Union. Each Union publishes its own monthly *General Letter*—periodicals devoted to the ventilation of the grievances of all classes and grades of Postal employees and to the improvement in the conditions of pay and service of all branches of the Postal Department.

The Union maintains a free reading-room and a good library, containing books on Postal matters, for the benefit of its members. In addition to the monthly publication of the *General Letter*, it issues a bi-monthly vernacular pamphlet called the *Doot-Patrika* for postmen. The Death Relief Fund of the Union gives donations of Rs. 25 to the heirs of each deceased member who has paid his subscriptions regularly. The Union issues invitations from time to time to various distinguished public men to deliver lectures on questions connected with Labour and the advantages of Trade Unionism. Among the persons to be recently invited for this purpose were Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., and Mr. Jog, M.L.A. The main activity of the Union during the quarter under review was confined to propaganda work in an endeavour to bring into the Union all non-Unionist Postal employees in the Poona Division. The Reserve Fund of the Union amounts to Rs. 1500 and the balance on hand in the current account was Rs. 1706 as at the 1st September 1926.

The Poona R.M.S.—B Division Union.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of this Union because it has been in existence for barely six months. The main reason why the Railway Mail Service Employees left the Postal and R.M.S. Union to form a separate Union of their own was to have an independent existence in order to better represent their own grievances to the authorities. With this end in view, this Union also, as already stated, publishes its own monthly *General Letter.*

The Poona District Postmen's & Lower Grade Staff Union.—This Union reported 232 members on its rolls as at the 1st September. Its average monthly income and expenditure during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 41 and Rs. 36 respectively. The Union has started morning and night tuition classes for the benefit of its members with a view to improve their efficiency and prospects and the subjects taught are English and Geography. The Union also prints a periodical pamphlet in vernacular for the benefit of its members.

The Press Workers' Union.—This Union is only carrying on a nominal existence and its activities are confined only to the holding of annual general meetings for discussions of matters of topical interest and the election of office-bearers and a committee.

Indian Cotton Industry

Enquiry by the Tariff Board

The following questionnaire was issued by the Tariff Board :—

Section I

General

1. Do you consider that the present depression in the Cotton Textile Industry is confined to Bombay or that it also extends to Ahmedabad and to up-country centres generally ? Does it affect all mills in the same centre alike ?

2. To what extent do you consider the depression due to the operation of world factors, of factors special to India or of factors special to a particular locality in India ?

3. Do you consider that the causes of the present depression in the industry are of a temporary or permanent character ?

4. Do you consider that, unless the present margin between the price of raw cotton and the price of yarn and piece-goods increases any mills now working will be compelled to close down ?

5. Do you consider that producers of yarn and piece-goods generally (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) in Ahmedabad and (*c*) in up-country centres with which you are acquainted are at present realising no profit on their sales or selling at a loss ?

6. What effect do you consider that a further fall in the price of raw cotton would have on the prosperity of the industry ?

7. How far can the present depression in the industry be attributed to lack of confidence in the stability of the present level of prices of raw cotton, of yarn and of piece-goods ?

8. How far do you consider that the depression in the industry can be attributed to the fact that the fall in the price of cloth has not corresponded with the fall in the price of cotton and that of other commodities ?

9. Do you consider that there has been a fall in the purchasing power of the ryot since the war, and if so, to what extent has this fall in purchasing power contributed to the depression in the mill industry ?

10. Do you agree with the view that, owing to the low prices of gold and silver, consumers prefer to invest their savings in the precious metals and to restrict their purchases of cloth to a minimum ?

11. How far can the present depression in the industry be attributed to lack of organisation among the mill-owners generally or in any specified directions ?

12. How far has the depression in the industry been reflected in the number of mills which have (*a*) changed hands, (*b*) closed down, (*c*) gone into liquidation since 1922 and in that of projected mills in which work has not been started of has been suspended since that date ? If you are in a position to give information in regard to a particular mill falling under any of these heads please do so.

Section II

Nature and extent of competition between imported goods and those of Indian manufacture

13. How far do you consider that the present depression in the industry can be attributed to the loss of the Chinese market for yarn ? How far do you consider that the heavy fall in the exports of yarn to China since 1917 can be attributed to foreign competition, to scarcity and dearness of freight, to the expansion of the weaving industry in India or to a combination of all these causes ?

14. How far do you consider the present depression in the industry due to increasing competition both in regard to quantity and price of imported yarn and piece-goods (*a*) from Japan and (*b*) from other countries ?

15. What counts of imported yarn and lines of imported piece-goods compete directly with the production of Indian mills ?

16. Please give as complete a range of figures as you can covering as long a period as possible of prices *ex* godown Bombay or Calcutta of imported yarn and piece-goods which compete with yarn and piece-goods manufactured in India. The prices *ex* mill of the Indian manufactures with which the imported goods compete should also be given.

17. Do you consider that any yarns or piece-goods imported from Japan or other countries are placed on the Indian market at prices which would not cover their cost of production in India or at prices which are lower in India than those at which they are placed in other markets (excluding freight and duty) ? If so, please furnish samples of such yarn or piece-goods, if possible, with particulars of prices. Can you furnish any evidence to show that such goods are placed on the Indian market at prices which after deducting freight and incidental expenses would not cover the cost of their production in the exporting country ?

18. Do you consider that any yarns or piece-goods exported from Japan or other countries are placed on any foreign market at prices which are lower than the cost of production of similar Indian goods *plus* freight and import duty? To what extent, if any, has India lost foreign markets as a result of such competition?

19. The total imports of yarn of counts under 30s into India in 1924-25 were less than 1·3 per cent. of the production of Indian mills. In these circumstances do you regard the competition of imported yarn as a serious factor, and if so, why? Do you consider the percentage likely to increase?

20. It has been estimated that before the war not more than 3 per cent. of the imports of piece-goods from the United Kingdom competed directly with the production of Indian mills and that since the war the percentage has not been more than 1 per cent. Do you accept these figures? If not, please give your reasons.

21. It has been estimated that 70 per cent. of the imports of piece-goods from Japan compete directly with the production of Indian mills. Do you accept this figure? If not, please give your reasons.

22. It has been estimated that 10 per cent. of the imports of piece-goods from countries other than the United Kingdom and Japan compete directly with the production of Indian mills. Do you accept this figure? If not, please give your reasons.

23. Do you consider the imports of piece-goods into India from the United Kingdom, Japan, Italy or any other country likely to increase, and if so, why?

24. To what extent do you consider that imported piece-goods from Japan compete with those (*a*) from the United Kingdom and (*b*) from other countries? Do you consider this competition likely to increase in the future?

25. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods from Japan with the production of Indian mills has been accentuated by the fall in the Japanese exchange? Please give figures in support of your view. Have you any criticisms to offer of the table given in paragraph 57 of the representation of the Bombay Millowners' Association and of the assumptions on which it is based?

26. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported goods from countries other than Japan with the production of Indian mills has been accentuated by fluctuations in the exchange of the exporting countries? Please give figures in support of your view. Do you consider that the competition from foreign countries other than Japan is likely to increase in the future owing to the exchange factor?

27. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported goods with the production of Indian mills has been accentuated by fluctuations in the sterling rate of the rupee? If the rupee is stabilised at 1s. 6*d*., what effect will it have on the industry?

28. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is facilitated by the difference between the conditions of labour in the exporting country and in India?

29. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is promoted by direct or indirect State assistance to the industry in the exporting country? Are you in a position to give any specific information on this point?

30. Do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is in any way assisted by special facilities in the matter of credit obtained by the exporting houses in their own country or offered by them to buyers in India?

31. How far do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is facilitated by greater attention paid by exporters to the requirements and preferences of Indian middlemen and consumers in regard to such matters as quality, finish and packing?

32. Has there been any marked change in the quality of piece-goods imported into India of recent years from Japan or any other country?

33. Can you give any specific instances in which any line of Indian yarn or piece-goods has been ousted from or seriously handicapped in the home or foreign market or any part of it by imports from Japan or any other country?

34. Do you consider that there are any signs of a growing preference on the part of Indian consumers for finer qualities of cloth than those ordinarily produced in Indian mills and that this preference is working to the disadvantage of Indian mills as compared with their competitors?

SECTION III

Internal Competition

35. To what extent, if any, do you consider that the extension of mills and the establishment of new mills in up-country centres have affected the prosperity and future prospects of the industry (*a*) in Bombay and (*b*) in Ahmedabad?

36. What advantages, if any, do you consider that Bombay mills have over mills in Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

37. Can you give an estimate of the relative advantages that mills in (*a*) Ahmedabad and (*b*) any up-country centre with which you are acquainted have over mills in Bombay owing to (*a*) proximity to large up-country markets, (*b*) proximity to coal fields, (*c*) proximity to sources of supply of raw materials?

38. To what extent does the hand-loom industry compete with the mill industry? Has there been any change in this respect of recent years?

39. Can you furnish any information as to the extent of the production of hand-spun yarn and hand-loom piece-goods?

SECTION IV

Mill Management

40. The British Safeguarding of Industries Act lays down *inter alia* that no order shall be made under Part I unless it is established that the industry manufacturing similar goods in the United Kingdom is being carried on "with reasonable efficiency and economy." Do you consider that this criterion is satisfied by the industry (*a*) in Bombay and Ahmedabad and (*b*) in India generally?

41. Please state your views in detail on the managing agency system. If you consider the system defective, please state in what way you regard it as defective. Do you consider any efficient substitute for the managing agency system possible?

42. Is the system of remuneration to managing agents by commission on profits or that by commission on production the more common? Which do you consider preferable?

43. In addition to remuneration by commission on production or on profits do managing agents also receive an allowance for office expenses and commission (*a*) on purchases of cotton, (*b*) on purchases of machinery, mill stores and coal, (*c*) on sales of cotton, (*d*) on sales of yarn and cloth and (*e*) on insurance, advertisement or other activities? Where the commission is on production, does the agency agreement usually provide for a minimum commission irrespective of profits?

44. Is the association of managing agents with any other classes or kinds of business common and, if so, do you consider it is in any way detrimental to the interests of the industry?

SECTION V

Mill Finance

45. To what extent can the present depression in the industry be attributed to the over-capitalisation or the under-capitalisation of the mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

46. To what extent can the present depression in the industry be attributed to extensions of mills and replacements of machinery undertaken when prices were at their highest?

47. Do you consider that there was an unduly liberal distribution of profits by mills between 1917 and 1923? If so, please give figures in support of your view and state whether you consider that the present depression in the industry can to any extent be attributed to this cause.

48. Have you any criticisms to offer of the way in which mills have obtained their capital, *i.e.*, of the way in which it is divided between (*a*) ordinary shares, (*b*) preference shares, (*c*) debentures, (*d*) loans, (*e*) reserve fund and (*f*) depreciation and other funds?

49. Have you any criticism to offer on the way in which mills obtain their working capital? To what extent is the system of obtaining this capital by means of short term loans from the general public prevalent (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) in Ahmedabad and (*c*) in up-country centres? Do you consider this system a sound one?

50. How far is it the practice of the mills to invest funds in allied concerns? Do you consider this practice a sound one?

51. Do mills now experience greater difficulties in obtaining finance than in pre-war years? If so, to what extent has this contributed to the general depression in the industry?

52. Can you give any information as to the rate at which money is borrowed by the industry in India and in Japan?

SECTION VI.—COSTS OF PRODUCTION

(*a*) *General*

53. What size do you consider a mill with both spindles and looms should be in order to ensure the most efficient and economical working? Can you give an approximate estimate of the capital required in pre-war conditions and at the present time to establish such a mill (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) in Ahmedabad and (*c*) in up-country centres? Can you give an idea of the approximate cost per spindle of establishing such a mill in 1914 and 1926 respectively in India as compared with the United Kingdom and Japan?

54. Are mills generally (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) Ahmedabad and (*c*) up-country centres of a size, type and lay-out conducive to economical working?

55. To what extent do you consider that the efficiency of Indian mills is hampered by the use of old machinery?

56. Please give for any mill in regard to which you are in a position to give such information a statement in the form attached as Appendix A of the costs of production in pies per pound for one

pound of grey yarn of 20s counts and for one pound of standard grey calendered long cloth. For purposes of comparison the figures should be given for 1913, 1914, 1920, 1924 and 1925 (if available).

N.B.—The exact period covered, where this differs from the Calendar year should be stated. The counts of warp and weft used for and the reed and pick of the standard long cloth should also be stated.

57. In which of the elements making up the cost of production do you consider Indian mills are at a special disadvantage as compared with their competitors?

58. In which of the elements making up the cost of production are mills in Bombay at an advantage or disadvantage as compared with mills in Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

59. To what extent, if any, are the costs of production in Bombay as compared with those in Ahmedabad and up-country centres affected by the greater humidity of its climate? To what extent does the provision of humidifiers add to or lower the cost of production?

(*b*) *Raw Material*

60. Please describe in detail the methods adopted by the mills in purchasing raw cotton (*a*) in Bombay and (*b*) in the cotton districts. Please state how these differ from those adopted in Lancashire and Japan.

61. How far do you consider that speculative purchases of (*a*) spot cotton and (*b*) cotton futures have contributed to the present depression in the industry? Can you suggest any method by which the element of speculation in such purchases could be reduced?

62. It has been frequently stated that the prices at which cotton is purchased by Indian mills are often higher than the prices paid for cotton for export. Do you consider this statement correct? If so, can you give any information as to the margin between the two prices? Can you suggest any reason why there should be such a margin or any means by which it can be avoided?

63. To what extent can the present depression in the industry be attributed to the purchase of cotton at prices higher than those now prevailing?

(*c*) *Labour*

64. The Bombay Millowners' Association hold that "the main factor which has contributed to the present increased cost of manufacture is the higher remuneration given to labour for a smaller unit of work as compared with pre-war years." Do you accept this view? How far does it also apply to Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

65. Do you consider that there was an unduly liberal distribution of bonuses to operatives between 1918 and 1923? If so, please give figures in support of your view and state whether you consider that the present depression in the industry can to any extent be attributed to this cause?

66. To what extent, if any, did (*a*) spinning and (*b*) weaving production suffer as a result of the reduction in the hours of labour in 1922? Please give comparative figures for 20s yarn and standard grey calendered long cloth before and after the reduction.

67. Please state for any mill with which you are acquainted:

(*a*) the number of spindles in the ring frames, the lift of spindle and number of ring spindles per competent spinner;

(*b*) the number of looms per competent weaver;

(*c*) the total operatives in the spinning department per 1,000 spindles up to and including reeling and the average counts spun;

(*d*) the total operatives in the weaving department per 100 looms for grey and coloured goods respectively.

Please explain in detail how you have arrived at your figures.

68. Please give the rates of wages paid in the spinning and weaving departments of any mill with which you are acquainted with particulars of any changes in these since 1914.

69. Please state the average spinner's wage per pound of 20s yarn and weaver's wage per pound of standard grey calendered long cloth produced for any mill with which you are acquainted.

70. To what extent do you consider the textile industry in India is hampered in comparison with its competitors by the inefficiency of Indian labour? How does the efficiency of labour in Bombay compare with that in Ahmedabad and in up-country centres?

71. What is the percentage of absenteeism (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) in Ahmedabad and (*c*) in any up-country mill with which you are acquainted? How far does the percentage of absenteeism vary from day to day in the week and how far is the variation seasonal? Is the percentage larger amongst female than amongst male operatives? To what extent do you consider that absenteeism could be reduced by the grant of good attendance bonuses and other privileges? Are such bonuses commonly granted?

72. How far does the "budli" system affect the efficiency of labour?

73. Can you furnish an estimate of the rate of labour turnover in the cotton textile industry (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) in Ahmedabad and (*c*) in up-country centres?

74. How far are mills in Ahmedabad and in up-country centres at an advantage or disadvantage over those in Bombay in regard to the continuity of labour supply? To what extent do you consider that continuity could be secured by the grant of long service bonuses and the institution of provident funds? Are such bonuses and provident funds common?

75 To what extent do mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad and up-country centres house their labour and what return do they get on the capital invested in such housing? Do you consider that improved housing conditions would result in any improvement in the efficiency of labour? How far is it possible to secure such conditions in Bombay and Ahmedabad?

76. What are the present facilities for technical education (*a*) for operatives, (*b*) for supervising staff? To what extent is use made of these? To what extent do you consider that the efficiency of labour could be improved by increasing them?

77. The Bombay Millowners' Association express the view that wages in the cotton textile industry are higher than those generally prevalent in any other industry in India. Do you accept this view? If so, please give facts in support of your opinion.

78. Has there been any marked change in the standard of living of operatives since the war.

79. Do you consider that there is any scope for a reduction in the labour costs in mills in India by the introduction of automatic looms or of other labour saving appliances? Would any such reduction be more than counterbalanced by additional expenditure in other directions?

80. Do you consider that there is any reasonable prospect of securing a reduction in labour costs in the near future by training operatives to tend more spindles or looms? Has there been any improvement in this respect in recent years?

81. Do you accept the figures given in paragraph 129 of the Bombay Millowners' representation in regard to the saving in the cost of cloth as a result of working double shifts? Can you furnish an estimate of the saving that would be secured by double shift working for any mill with which you are acquainted.

82. Would it be possible or advisable to introduce double shift working in mills (*a*) in Bombay, (*b*) in Ahmedabad and (*c*) in up-country centres?

83. To what extent, if any, has legislation in recent years affected the cost of production? Please give full details under each head as far as possible.

(*d*) *Overhead Charges*

84. The Bombay Millowners' Association in their representation have supplied full details of the local taxation imposed in Bombay. Please supply similar details for any up-country centre with which you are acquainted.

85. For what purposes is insurance effected by the Indian mills? Do you consider the present position in regard to the amount of insurance and the methods of effecting it satisfactory?

86. What do you consider the correct percentage which should be allowed for depreciation and how should the depreciation fund be utilised? Do you consider that depreciation should be reckoned as a charge on cost of production or as a charge on profits? How far does the ordinary mill practice coincide with your views on these points?

87. On what principle are the stocks of cotton, mill stores and manufactured goods held by Indian mills valued for purposes of balance sheets? Is there an independent valuation or are the auditors content with certificates from the managing agents?

88. Is the audit of mill accounts a running audit or an annual one?

(*e*) *Sales*

89. Please describe in detail the different systems adopted by the mills in selling their products. Which system you consider preferable and why? Can you give any figures in support of your views?

90. Is the system of sales on long credit prevalent? What are your views regarding it?

91. Please give full details of the additions which have to be made at the present time to the prices of Indian and imported yarns and piece-goods *ex* mill and *ex* godown respectively to make up their cost to the consumer. How do these compare with those ruling in 1913? Are they the same in all cases for Indian and imported goods?

92. Do dealers in piece-goods now experience greater difficulties in obtaining finance than in pre-war years? If so, to what extent has this contributed to the present depression in the industry?

(*f*) *Transport*

93. Please give as full particulars as you can of the freights on cotton from India to the United Kingdom, Japan and Italy and on cotton from America, Egypt and Uganda to the United Kingdom, Japan, Italy and India.

94. Please give as full particulars as you can of the freights on piece-goods from the United Kingdom, Italy and Japan to India.

95. Can you give any instances of discrimination between Bombay, Ahmedabad and up-country centres in the rates of railway freight charged for the carriage of raw cotton, yarn, piece-goods and mill stores inwards or outwards?

SECTION VII.—SUGGESTIONS AS TO REMEDIAL MEASURES

(*a*) *Suggestions put forward by the Bombay Millowners' Association*

96. Are you in favour of the proposal that the customs duty on machinery and mill stores should be abolished? What difference in pies per pound of yarn or cloth produced would this make to the cost of production of any mill with which you are acquainted?

97. What are your views on the proposal that the Company super tax should be abolished?

98. What are your views on the proposal that the town duty of Re. 1 per bale levied in Bombay should be abolished?

99. Can you suggest any improvements in the present railway facilities for the movement of cotton, yarn and piece-goods?

100. Do you consider that any case can be made out for a reduction in the present rates of railway freight charged on cotton consumed by Indian mills and on piece-goods and yarn manufactured in India?

101. What are your views on the suggestion that the Government of India should negotiate with the steamship companies with a view to reducing the shipping freights from Bombay to Madras, Calcutta, Singapore, Basra, Zanzibar, Mombasa, Port Said, the Levant and all other export markets? Can you give a comparative statement showing the present freights between Bombay and these ports and those which ruled before the war?

102. What are your views on the suggestion that the Government of India should appoint Trade Commissioners to assist the export trade?

103. Can you suggest any other measures by which (*a*) those overseas markets for Indian yarn which have been lost could be recovered, (*b*) the present overseas markets for Indian yarn and piece-goods could be extended and (*c*) new markets could be opened?

104. The Bombay Millowners' Association have suggested the imposition of an additional duty of at least 13 per cent. on yarn and piece-goods imported from foreign countries which compete unfairly with India. Are you in favour of the imposition of such a duty (*a*) on imports from Japan alone, (*b*) on all imports, (*c*) on yarn of certain counts and on cloth of certain qualities? If the last, please state the counts and qualities on which you consider the duty should be imposed.

105. If you are in favour of such a duty, do you consider that it should be imposed as a temporary or a permanent measure?

106. Do you consider that the imposition of the proposed protective duty would result in a temporary or permanent increase in the price of all yarn or cloth or only of the yarn and cloth on which the duty was imposed? In either case, to what extent would the increased price affect the cost of living of the middle and lower classes?

107. Do you consider, on the other hand, that the result of the imposition of the proposed additional duty would merely be such increase in sales as might result from the displacement of imported yarn and cloth?

108. Do you consider that the internal competition between Indian mills would operate to restrict the increase in the price of yarn and cloth throughout the whole of India or only in local areas?

109. Do you consider that an increased import duty should be levied even if it increases the prices of yarn and cloth to consumers?

110. Do you accept the view of the Bombay Millowners' Association that the raising of the import duties to 11 per cent. did not raise the price of cloth or check its consumption? If so, please give figures in support of your views.

111. Do you consider that an increase in the duty on imported yarn and cloth would act as a restriction on the consumption of yarn and cloth? If so, do you consider that this would be in the best interests of the mill industry in view of the fact that the figures in paragraph 121 of the representation of the Bombay Millowners' Association show that exclusive of the production of handlooms the cloth available for consumption in India in 1924-25 was still 638 million yards below the figures for 1913-14 in spite of the increase in population in the interim?

112. To what extent, if any, do you consider that the increase in the duty on imported yarn and cloth would, by diverting yarn and cloth from India, unfavourably affect the position of Indian yarn and cloth in overseas markets?

113. What do you consider would be the effect on the handloom industry of the increase in the duty on imported yarn from 5 to 18 per cent.? In this connection, your special attention is drawn to the views expressed in paragraph 116 of the Fiscal Commission's Report.

114. The Bombay Millowners' Association have asked for the adoption of a scientific tariff by which presumably is meant the adoption of specific duties on yarn and cloth in lieu of *ad valorem* duties. What are your views on this suggestion and how would you propose that such a tariff should be framed (*a*) to maintain the protection given at its present level, (*b*) to achieve the objects desired by the Bombay Millowners' Association?

115. The Bombay Millowners have asked for additional protection beyond 13 per cent. to enable mills to make the necessary allowances for depreciation to plant and machinery. Do you support this proposal? If so, what additional protection do you consider would be required?

(*b*) *Other Suggestions*

116. Are you in favour of an export duty on cotton? If so, at what figure would you place it? To what extent do you consider such a duty would affect (*a*) the income of cotton growers, (*b*) the area under cotton, (*c*) the price of cotton in India and (*d*) the price of Indian cotton in overseas markets?

117. To what extent, if any, do you consider that the imposition of a duty on cotton at the rate you suggest would result in the replacement of Indian cotton in overseas markets by American or other cotton?

118. Can you suggest any improvements in the banking facilities at present available to the industry?

119. Do you consider that the position of the industry could be improved by better organisation of the millowners, *i.e.*, by greater co-operation between the mills in such matters as the purchase of cotton, machinery and mill stores, the state of the finished products, the standardisation of lines and prices or by any other combined action?

120. How far would progress in spinning finer counts, *i.e.*, counts above 30s in India affect the condition of the industry?

121. Do you consider that it would benefit the mill industry if different mills were to specialise to a greater extent than at present on certain counts of yarn or on certain types of cloth? Are mills at present equipped for specialisation?

122. Do you consider that the mill industry as a whole would benefit by extending its range of production and that, *e.g.*, the Bombay mill industry would benefit if it were to pay greater attention to the requirements of the Calcutta market?

123. Do you consider that greater attention should be paid by the Indian mills to bleached, dyed and printed goods, to the utilisation of waste and to subsidiary branches of production such as hosiery?

124. Do you consider that the full effect of the remission of the excise duty has yet been felt?

125. If there are any causes which, in your opinion, contribute to the depression in the industry other than those mentioned above, please state them with suggestions as to possible remedies.

126. Can you suggest any methods of assisting the industry other than those which have been referred to in the above questions?

SPECIAL QUESTIONS FOR THE BOMBAY MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

1. In paragraph 130 of their representation, the Association have asked for the adoption of "a scientific tariff so that the goods which Indian mills can manufacture and supply to India shall not be open to unfair competition from foreign competitors. Please explain exactly what is meant by a scientific tariff and how the Association consider it should be framed to achieve the object they have in view.

2. In paragraph 131 of their report, the Association ask for protection in addition to the 13 per cent. proposed in that paragraph to enable mills to make the necessary allowances for depreciation to plant and machinery. What additional duty do the Association consider should be imposed for this purpose?

3. Please give an account of the working of the Millowners' Association Mutual Insurance Fund for workmen's compensation and state whether the Millowners' Association has under contemplation any similar scheme for fire and other insurances.

REPLIES OF THE BOMBAY MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

The following is a summary of the replies given by the Bombay Millowners' Association to the questionnaire issued by the Tariff Board, especially those replies relating to labour.

The Association pointed out that the depression in the industry was mainly due to factors peculiar to India and it was felt more severely in Bombay than in Ahmedabad and up-country centres, chiefly because Bombay is further from the cotton fields and the consuming markets of India. Except a few good mills with reserves, mills generally in Bombay were realizing no profits and unless there was a more substantial margin than at present between the price of raw cotton and the price of yarn and piece-goods, some mills in Bombay which were now working would have to close down. The present depression, in the opinion of the Association, could not be attributed to a lack of organization among the millowners.

As regards foreign competition, the Association pointed out that the industry was seriously affected by Japanese competition. In their opinion the establishment of mills in Native States and up-country centres had

also to a certain extent increased the internal competition which Bombay and Ahmedabad had to meet.

In reply to the question whether the industry was carried out " with reasonable efficiency and economy " the Association replied that with a few exceptions, the mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad and the other industrial centres were carried on efficiently and economically. The managing agency system which had lately been so much attacked, was, in the opinion of the Association, not defective. As far as Bombay mills were concerned, there was neither over-capitalisation nor under-capitalisation. There was no unduly liberal distribution of profits between 1917 and 1923.

In their original statement the Association pointed out that the main factor which had contributed to the present increased cost of manufacture was the higher remuneration given to labour for a smaller unit of work as compared with prewar years. Owing to the reduction of hours from 12 to 10 in 1922, the production of spinning mills had gone down by about 16 per cent. and of weaving mills by about 10 to 12 per cent. On the whole the reduction in hours had resulted in 13 per cent. less production in all departments. The decrease in hours increased the labour cost per lb. of cloth by approximately 13 per cent. Besides this, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, employers have to pay compensation to the operatives in cases of accidents. Mills have accordingly to insure themselves against this risk, the present rate charged being 3 annas per cent. on the total amount of wages paid, the rate last year being 4 annas per cent. About 60 mills had insured themselves against risk under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the total premia paid by these mills was about Rs. 1,25,000 per year.

It was pointed out by the Association that the number of operatives per 100 looms was 87, the number of looms per competent weaver being 2. The number of ring spindles per competent spinner was 160 to 180 and the number of operatives per thousand spindles 33. The average spinner got for his 160 spindles about Rs. 29 per month and an average weaver about Rs. 42 per month for his two looms.

As regards the efficiency of Indian labour, the Association pointed out that the Indian textile industry was hampered to a very considerable extent compared with the United Kingdom owing to the inefficiency of its labour. For example, while in India in counts up to 24s a man attended to 180 to 200 ring spindles, in Lancashire a girl would attend to 540 to 600 spindles. In India a man attended to two looms while in Lancashire a girl would attend to four and sometimes to six. In Ahmedabad labour was about as efficient as it was in Bombay but it was more efficient in up-country centres where it is very much less costly than in Bombay.

As regards absenteeism, the Association quoted the Labour Office figures which for June 1926 showed an absenteeism of 11·13 per cent. in Bombay City and Island, 2·54 per cent. in Ahmedabad and 15·5 per cent. in Sholapur. It pointed out further that the " badli " system materially affected efficiency in Bombay mills.

Asked whether the other mill centres had advantages or disadvantages over Bombay, the Association replied that in their opinion Ahmedabad

had an advantage over Bombay in regard to the continuity of the labour supply, having a much more permanent factory population, and a smaller amount of absenteeism. In up-country centres the position varied but in most centres there was difficulty in obtaining labour at certain seasons of the year. In the opinion of the Association, continuity of labour supply could not be secured by the grant of bonuses or the institution of provident funds. These methods had been tried in Bombay but had contributed nothing towards the solution of the labour problem owing to the migratory habits of the workmen.

As regards the housing of mill-labour, the Association pointed out that 18 mills in the Presidency had made some provision for the housing of their labour but at present the mills were not developing the practice of housing their workmen as the question of industrial housing had been taken up by Government. The mills paid 10 to 12 lakhs of rupees per annum towards the Government scheme for industrial housing. The Association was of opinion that the unpopularity of chawls built by Government had resulted in the overcrowding of mill chawls. As regards the question whether an improvement in the housing conditions would result in an improvement in efficiency, the Association was of opinion that better housing would improve efficiency only if the operatives could be taught to appreciate the improved accommodation now available in Bombay, but owing to illiteracy and the transitory nature of their work, any improvement in efficiency was bound to be slow. The return which the millowners got on the capital invested in mill chawls was in the neighbourhood of 1 to 1½ per cent., though in some cases it was even less than that.

The Association pointed out that some provision for the training of apprentices was made in the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, and in the technical school started by the Bombay Social Service League. In the opinion of the Association, however, theoretically more extensive facilities for technical education would lead to greater efficiency of labour, but up to now these facilities had little effect on the workers owing to their illiteracy.

Asked whether there had been any marked change in the standard of living of operatives since the war, the Association replied that the operatives had not improved their standard of living though they spent more money. The Association did not think it possible to introduce double shift working in mills in Bombay.

In a memorandum which they submitted to the Tariff Board, the Association pointed out that one of the main causes of the present difficulties of the industry was the depreciated exchanges of countries like Japan. The second difficulty was that they had to face the unfair competition of Japanese mills which were allowed to work two shifts for 20 hours a day and to employ women and children at night. The third difficulty was that wages in the Bombay mills had increased to a greater extent than the cost of living and were in some instances two and a half times the prewar figure. And finally, the development of the industry was being retarded by excessive taxation. Income tax which used to be levied at 6 pies in the rupee had been raised to 1½ annas in the rupee.

Super-tax had been levied in 1919 at a flat rate of one anna in the rupee. In addition to these taxes there was a duty of 2½ per cent. on machinery and of 15 per cent. on stores since 1918. Since 1923 a cotton cess had also been levied.

These difficulties, the Association pointed out, being of a permanent character could be overcome only if Government protected the industry in some way. To neutralise the hardship caused by the exchange, the Association suggested that an increased duty should be levied on goods imported from the country with a depreciated currency equal to the depreciation of the exchange of that country. The Association expressed the opinion that the Imperial and Provincial Governments as well as the municipalities should make every effort to reduce taxation by cutting down their expenditure. As a first step the duties on machinery and mill stores should be abolished. Company Super-tax and the town duty of Re. 1 per bale of cotton should also go. The industry might further be assisted by (*a*) reducing freights on Indian mill-made goods to Calcutta, Delhi, Cawnpore, Lahore, Amritsar and other piece-goods and yarn markets, (*b*) negotiating with the steamship companies with a view to reducing the shipping freights to Madras, Calcutta, Singapore, Basra, Zanzibar, Mombasa, Port Said and the Levant and all other export markets, (*c*) appointing Trade Commissioners in various countries to assist the industry in export trade and (*d*) adopting a scientific tariff so that the goods which the Indian mills can manufacture and supply to India shall not be open to unfair competition from foreign countries.

Finally the Association pointed out that the industry required protection equivalent to 13 per cent. in order to be in an equal position with foreign countries and further additional protection to enable mills to make the necessary allowance for depreciation of plant and machinery.

LABOUR'S REPRESENTATION

The Bombay Textile Labour Union submitted to the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry) a long and comprehensive representation expressing the views of the Union on the matters into which the Board was enquiring as well as a detailed reply to the questionnaire. We give the following extracts from it dealing particularly with the Union's evidence regarding labour and labour conditions in the mills in Bombay City.

At the outset, the Union desired to make it perfectly clear to the Board that the textile workers in Bombay were anxious to see the cotton mill industry restored to prosperity; and were therefore willing to support suitable measures calculated to remove the industry from its present deplorable position and place it on a sound and efficient footing. To the Millowners and the traders, bad times like the present might mean less profit and a little curtailment of some of their luxuries; but to the 150,000 operatives engaged in the mills in Bombay, they mean starvation and ruin. The Union however could not persuade itself to accept the measures

suggested by the Bombay Millowners' Association for the improvement of the industry. In the opinion of the Union, labour was one of the most essential factors for the successful working of any industry and in Bombay, this factor was so miserably weak that even under ideal conditions in respect of other elements that constitute the industry it would not be able to hold its own under the present circumstances. The first and foremost requirement for putting the industry on a sound footing with a view to restore it to prosperity, was radically to improve the present labour conditions and remove the hardships from which textile labour has been suffering for so many years. If that were done, the textile industry would be in a much better position than it is to-day to compete with countries like Japan and improve its future prospects.

The representation then goes on to deal in some detail with the conditions of labour.

Recruitment.—The system of recruitment of labour through head-jobbers and jobbers had led to many serious abuses and contributed considerably to the growing discontent among the operatives. In the early days of the industry there might have been some justification for employing jobbers to recruit people from their villages, but the times of scarcity of labour have long gone and there is plenty of labour available in Bombay which could be recruited directly by the mill authorities. It is notorious that several jobbers and women overseers called " Naikins " receive bribes or " Dasturi " varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 5 per month from the operatives at the time of employment and even during the continuance of their service. These practices naturally led to many dismissals of those who refused to give bribes which again was responsible for what is known as the " badli " system against which the millowners complained so bitterly.

The " Badli " System.—The Union maintains that the "badli" system is mostly the creation of the mill officials and that it is entirely in their hands to discard it. Frequent, summary and arbitrary dismissals and refusal to re-employment were the main causes of the constant change of the employees, and if suitable remedies were adopted to stop these practices the Union felt sure that the evils arising out of this system would be greatly minimised. In addition to these causes, illness in the family of the worker in addition to his own, other domestic troubles, family celebrations, social obligations, etc., force the worker to remain absent from his mill for a few days and in his absence he has to engage a substitute. This is inevitable. But the Union believes that some of the bad effects arising out of this system can be minimised if some leave, in addition to the weekly holidays that the worker gets under the Factories Act, was granted to him annually and if a few permanent extra workers were engaged by the mills. Moreover, the *badliwallas* were not necessarily inefficient. There was a considerable amount of unemployment and a large number of textile workers idle. It is from these unemployed that the *badliwallas* were generally recruited. They have experience of the work which they are asked to do and they therefore are not as inefficient as they were made out to be.

Wages.—The Union's representation dealt in some detail with the question of wages especially the statement of the Bombay Millowners' Association that " as compared with 1910 the wages of mill operatives in Bombay have increased by well over 100 per cent." The Union did not think that the figures given in the Millowners' Association statement were correct, but assuming they were, the idea sought to be conveyed, that the wages obtaining in 1910 or 1914 were adequate, was erroneous. The wages obtaining in prewar days were not only inadequate but they were not even subsistence wages. The Union was not prepared to accept the figures of prewar wages as given in the " Report on an Enquiry into the Wages and Hours of Labour in the Cotton Mill Industry " published by the Labour Office, Bombay, in 1921, and quoted from the second report of the Labour Office, particularly paragraphs 13, 14, 26 and 27, to show that the 1923 report " completely knocked the bottom out of the Millowners' argument " when they talked of over 100 per cent. increase in the textile workers' wages since 1910 or 1914. The Union therefore was unable to accept Rs. 30-10-1 as the average monthly earnings of the textile worker in Bombay. It was unable to work out its own average, but it believed that it must be something appreciably less than Rs. 30-10-1.

Deductions.—Fines inflict a very heavy burden on the poor resources of the operative and were inflicted for spoiling cloth, irregular attendance, negligent work, misbehaviour and absence without leave. No attempt was generally made to find out whether the faults alleged to have been committed by the workers were due to causes for which they alone were responsible. The fines were disproportionate and were levied with no consideration for justice. Pieces of cloth spoiled during the process of work, not necessarily through the fault of the operatives, were given to the workers and heavy deductions made from their wages. In July last in one of the Bombay mills spoiled cloth worth over Rs. 2000 was given to the workers and the amount of the price of the cloth deducted from their wages. Sometimes workers did not get the wages for the days worked by them before they left the mill to go to their native place for some reason or other. On their return, which might be from 3 to 6 months afterwards, they were told that their wages were forfeited, as they had infringed the company's rule as to the time limit within which they would pay wages. Wages were withheld also for absence without permission, failure to resume duty after the expiry of leave, etc. Some mill managers after some correspondence agreed to the payment of withheld wages, but the workers experienced considerable difficulties in getting them. The rates for piece-workers and fixed wage-earners are sometimes cut down without previous notice. Another grievance was the fact that as worker had to wait a month and a half to receive his first month's wages and the waiting period of a fortnight to get his subsequent payments added to his indebtedness, for the purchaser had to purchase his necessaries of life on credit and the shopkeeper naturally charged a little more than he would do if the purchases were made on cash payment..

" It is the firm conviction of the Union that the Bombay Millowners have brought the cotton mill industry to the present state mainly on account

of the condition in which they have allowed their labour to remain during the last seventy years and the starvation wages which they are giving them. If they still further reduce the workers' present poor standard of life by a cut in their wages, the Union shudders to think what will happen to the industry in the near future. The Union hopes that better counsels will prevail and the millowners will not take the suicidal step to cut down the workers' wages and add to their miseries," says the representation.

The Union then deals with the housing conditions of the industrial workers in Bombay quoting from Professor Burnett-Hurst's book on " Labour and Housing in Bombay " to show the terrible conditions under which the working classes live. The Union agreed that many of the chawls built by some of the millowners for their own employees were better than those described by Professor Burnett-Hurst, but such chawls were inadequate to meet the requirements of all the workers while the Development chawls were too expensive.

Inefficiency of workers.—The representation dealt in some detail with the inefficiency of the workers and adduced evidence in support of its contention that while the Indian labour may be less efficient than the Lancashire labour, it is not the fact that Indian labour is not worth the wages it receives as compared with Lancashire labour. The question had been incidentally considered by the Indian Factory Labour Commission of 1908 and from the calculations made by Mr. C. B. Simpson of Messrs. Binny & Co. of Madras, it was found that 2·62 Indian employees were equal to one English worker, but it was pointed out by the late Dr. T. M. Nair, one of the members of the Commission, that if the wages of the English mill operative were compared with those of the Indian mill operative, it was clear that for the same money, the Indian millowner got nearly double the work than an English millowner did. " When a charge of inefficiency was levelled against the Indian worker, factors other than the worker's skill, powers of endurance and capacity for continuous work which contribute towards efficiency, are generally ignored. Also it must be remembered that the worker's skill, powers of endurance and capacity for continuous work are subject to conditions over which he has no control whatsoever. Apart from climatic conditions, the conditions in the works are responsible to a great extent for the efficiency of the worker. The discomforts arising from excessive heat or humidification, want of ventilation, lack of facilities for taking the mid-day meal or rest during the recess hour, want of cleanliness, tend to deprive the worker of a lot of energy which would otherwise be used by him in attending to his work with the required concentration of mind. Also conditions outside the works such as good housing facilities, healthy recreation, etc., which keep a man in a fit condition and full of energy must be taken into consideration. It is a notorious fact that both the inside and outside conditions in this country are not half so favourable as in Lancashire. Again for want of skill, if there be really any, of the Indian workman he himself cannot be held responsible. Facilities for training must be provided by the millowners. It is absurd to expect the workmen to be skilled without receiving training. Sometimes it is said

that the workmen have made no progress in their skill, though the mill industry is in existence for over 70 years. Skill has to be acquired and for its acquisition facilities must be provided. Also, skill being an acquired quality, is not transmitted from generation to generation. The Union is surprised to hear the charges of inefficiency levelled by the millowners who have practically done nothing to increase the efficiency of their workmen. They are still indifferent. The Social Service League of Bombay has started a Textile Training School, but the millowners, excepting three or four of them, did nothing to help it, and no millowner is sending his employees to the School to receive training by providing scholarships for their maintenance till the course is completed."

Moreover, a good deal of the so-called efficiency of labour depended upon the provision of up-to-date labour-saving machinery, and Bombay is much more backward in this respect in comparison with western countries and also with Japan.

Dealing with absenteeism and the migratory character of Bombay labour the Union maintained that conditions of service, bad housing and the general climatic conditions in Bombay account for a good deal of the workers' absenteeism, but even under existing conditions absenteeism could be reduced provided the employers have the will to do so. The system of a production or efficiency bonus, if introduced, might help the employers in reducing absenteeism. The Union repudiates the charge that the workers absent themselves voluntarily because they have earned sufficient to keep body and soul together and lack the will to increase their wages to the maximum. The Union also refuted the statement that the Bombay labour is migratory.

Women workers.—The Union stated that the wages given to women were not even subsistence wages and must be increased considerably. In addition to the hardships and the disabilities of the women workers which they suffer in common with the mill operatives, there were a few more grievances which were peculiar to women. Some mills had not yet provided creches and in only a few mills were maternity benefits given. Most of the women workers in the mills had to work under forewomen who were mostly tyrants of the worst kind.

The absence of minimum human requirements was another point dealt with by the Union including the non-provision of accommodation for the workers to take their meals, no arrangement for cool drinking water, inadequate and unsatisfactory provision of latrines, etc. The Union also referred to the fact that very few mills in Bombay carry on any welfare work for their operatives. Again, the textile workers were not properly organised and the pace of organisation could be considerably hastened only if the millowners instructed the mill authorities, high and low, to treat the labour organisations with sympathy, give the organisers such facilities in their work as might be possible and, above all, give up altogether the policy of victimisation. If this were done, the Union was confident that the work of organisation would be much smoother and the industry would also gain much by an organised and well disciplined labour force.

In conclusion the representation says :—

" It is very difficult for the Union to recommend any concrete proposals.

But it may be stated that help should be given by way of subsidies or loans without interest (*i*) to improve the mill machinery and to put up automatic looms, if possible; (*ii*) to introduce specialisation and avoid over-production in particular grades and varieties and thus eliminate internal competition; (*iii*) to make experiments by which the mills may be able to improve their production; (*iv*) to make efforts by which the sales may be increased both in Indian and foreign markets; and (*v*) to train the workers to increase their efficiency and to better their conditions of life and service. The Union desires to make it perfectly clear that such help should be given only after the millowners satisfy the criterion referred to in the Board's questionnaire (question No. 40), *viz.*, that of efficiency and economy, and if the millowners promise to radically improve the labour conditions. Further, this help should be given only for a temporary period during which the millowners should prepare themselves to face the world competition without any outside help. Money required to help the industry as suggested above, should be raised by a special direct tax which should be imposed upon those who are able to bear its burden."

Industrial Training

Much attention is paid to vocational training in connection with the general education schemes in Porto Rico.

In all rural schools agriculture is taught theoretically and practically. The boys are taught gardening, crop raising, stock raising, tree culture, fertilisation, marketing and soil conservation. The girls are taught gardening and marketing, home furnishing and housekeeping, health and sanitary measures, food selection and preparation, cooking, sewing and dress-making, lace-making. Altogether agriculture is being taught in 2476 rural schools. Nearly 2000 school gardens have been established and 505 lawns and flower-gardens are maintained by the pupils.

In the towns industrial training is a part of school work. For graduation from elementary schools, two years, and for graduation from high schools four years of manual training are required from boys and of domestic training from girls. Over 3000 pupils during the fiscal year received instruction in the manual arts courses and 7000 in the domestic science courses.

Special teachers are employed, rooms are set aside in school buildings and in some cases the municipalities have built small cottages for demonstration work. The work of the boys is sold and part of the proceeds given to the producers, and the girls also may sell part of what they produce and are allowed to work on Saturdays in the shops and stores, for which they receive $1 a day. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.*)

Ahmedabad Mill Chawls

PROVISION FOR HOUSING LABOUR

The Labour Office is at present engaged in conducting a house-rent enquiry in Ahmedabad. As the purpose of this enquiry is to ascertain the rise in rents ove rthe prewar year, it was deemed necessary to exclude from its scope buildings let out free or at concession rents. And in order to determine the extent to which provision had been made by the mill owners in Ahmedabad for housing their labour a separate enquiry into mill chawls was conducted.

The method adopted for this enquiry was to send a circular letter to all the mills in Ahmedabad requesting them to furnish the necessary data in a form specially drawn up for the purpose. The information received was in some cases verified by the Labour Investigator, Ahmedabad.

GENERAL

The heading of this article is somewhat misleading. All the houses included in this enquiry are not owned by the mills nor do they conform to that type of tenement ordinarily met with in Bombay and known as a chawl. Some houses are taken on long lease by the mills and then rented out to their employees at a concession rent. Most of the working class houses in Ahmedabad have no more than a ground floor and chawls of the Bombay type are very rare. The term chawl has however been used because in common parlance it is associated with working class houses.

All the mills in Ahmedabad do not provide housing accommodation for their employees. Thirty mills or about 50 per cent. of the total provide accommodation to some of their workers. No mill provides accommodation for all its workers. The reason adduced for this in some quarters is that a certain portion of the working class population of Ahmedabad, particularly Mahomedans, do not like to live in mill quarters as they prefer staying in localities inhabited by their co-religionists.

The total number of tenements available to mill workers is 3530 out of which 3316 are occupied and 214 vacant. Of the total number, 92·4 per cent. are one-roomed tenements, 7·3 two-roomed and ·3 three-roomed. It will thus be seen that the predominant type of tenement is the one-roomed tenement.

It would have been interesting to find out the average number of persons in each tenement and provision for collecting this information had been made in the schedule. Unfortunately, however, information on this point was furnished by only a few mills. The returns furnishing information showed that the number of persons per tenement was four. Cases of overcrowding are however not rare and in one case three families were found living in a single room.

The materials of which these chawls are built are in some cases entirely corrugated iron sheets and in others brick, clay, chunam and concrete roofed in a few cases with tiles but mostly with corrugated iron. Where

they are entirely of iron sheets, they are hot during summer, cold during winter and wet during the rains.

A complaint is frequently made by the Labour Union and the Sanitary Association that these chawls have no plinth at all. This makes the tenements very dark and ill-ventilated. But it may here be pointed out that not only are the mill chawls in Ahmedabad without any plinth but other similar tenements in Ahmedabad have also no plinth.

DIMENSIONS

The dimensions of the occupied tenements excluding verandahs are given below :—

Limits of dimensions in cubic feet	Tenements*		
	One-roomed	Two-roomed	Three-roomed
Below 1,000 cubic feet	162	...	
1,000 c. feet and below 1,200	165		
1,200 ,, ,, ,, 1,400	359	. .	
1,400 ,, ,, ,, 1,600	1,361	. .	
1,600 ,, ,, ,, 1,800	494	...	
1,800 ,, ,, ,, 2,000	288	32	
2,000 c. feet and over	223	210	10
Total ..	3,052	242	10

The average area of one-roomed tenements is approximately 1550 cubic feet.

RENT

The mills were asked to supply information regarding the rents charged in 1913-14 and in 1926. The nature of the information received was unsatisfactory. Several mills gave the range of rents and not the rents of individual tenements. In the absence of the data for individual tenements it was therefore not possible to ascertain the frequency of rents. All that is possible to do therefore is to give the average rental for the various kinds of tenements. The following table shows the average monthly rent in 1926 :—

Tenement	Monthly rent in 1926 Rs. a. p.
One-roomed	3 0 5
Two-roomed	4 5 5
Three-roomed	9 0 0

It is not possible to calculate the percentage rise of rents in the case of all the tenements covered by the enquiry over the prewar year 1913-14. Some of the chawls were not in existence in 1913-14. In some cases the mills had changed hands and the data for the prewar year were therefore not available. Only for 794 one-roomed tenements was information for

* Excluding 12 two-roomed tenements for which dimensions are not available.

both 1913-14 and 1926 available. The average monthly rent based on these figures comes to Rs. 0-15-0 in 1913-14 and Rs. 1-12-1 in 1926, thus, representing an increase of 87 per cent.* This is substantially lower than the rise indicated by the Labour Office enquiry into working class rents in Ahmedabad conducted in 1924. This enquiry showed a percentage rise of 191·83 for one-roomed tenement over 1913-14.†

The methods of charging rents vary. In some cases tenements are let out free, in others the mill employees are charged less than outsiders, while some mills make no difference between their own employees and outsiders. The enquiry shows that only 59 one-roomed tenements out of the total are given free of charge by two mills. The occupants of these quarters are sepoys, firemen and coal-coolies living within the compounds of the mills. Fourteen mills out of thirty keep the chawls exclusively for the use of their employees. Out of the remaining sixteen, twelve make no distinction in regard to rent payable by outsiders and their own employees. The difference in the rents charged by the four mills is indicated below :—

Rent payable by employees	Rent payable by outsiders
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
3 10 0	4 2 0
4 0 0	6 0 0
1 12 0	5 0 0
2 4 0	3 4 0

FACILITIES TO TENANTS

It is not possible to make any generalization regarding the facilities given to tenants. These vary from chawl to chawl. For instance, as regards the supply of water, some tenants can use the mill taps while others have to go a long distance to fetch well-water. In some chawls there is scarcity of water owing to the inadequate number of taps provided.

The supply of latrines and privies is generally inadequate and in at least three cases no privies have been built.

A New Factories Act in Alberta

One of the most important labour measures of the session of the Alberta Legislature which ended on 8th April 1926 was the new Factories Act.

As originally introduced, the Bill proposed to establish a working week of forty-eight hours in the establishments coming under the Factories Act ; but, as a concession to employers throughout the province who expressed their disapproval of the legal eight-hour day, it was decided to establish a commission of two persons to investigate the subject of a forty-eight hour working week with regard to any or all of the industries carried on in a factory, shop or office, this commission to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and to report at the next session of the Legislature. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.*)

* Based on returns received from five mills only.

† See Labour Gazette for July 1925, pp. 1178-1180.

Reviews of Books and Reports

Fourth Year Book of the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, 1926

This valuable year book is published in three languages, namely, German, French and English. The special feature of the fourth year book is that in addition to the usual tables, reports of various kinds, etc., it contains a table concerning the assets of the National Trade Union centres and their affiliated organizations at the end of 1924, a lengthy description of the various orientations in the International Trade Union Movement, the rules of the International Federation of Trade Unions, the chief provisions of the Rules of the affiliated trade union centres, etc.

The statistical information though a little out of date is clearly presented. On the whole, this is a very valuable book of reference.

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Report of the Immigration Department of the Government of Jamaica for the year ended 31st December 1925. (Immigration Office, Kingston)

We have received from the Government of Jamaica a Report on the working of the Immigration Department for 1925. There were no immigrants introduced during the year and none were repatriated or re-indentured. There are now approximately 17,822 Indians in the colony, the majority of whom are employed in various manual occupations including agricultural labourers, planters, mechanics, shopkeepers, market gardeners, traders, goldsmiths, cartmen, domestic servants and nurses. There are also a number of East Indian men and women who are employed as chauffeurs, clerks and typists. An approximate statement which it is stated does not fully represent the true value of the property shows that land owned by East Indians consists of over 11,576 acres of the value of £76,503. The live stock owned by East Indians is valued at £18,913. There were 82 destitute orphans being cared for by Government in orphanages, etc., and there were 1265 children attending Government elementary schools, an increase of 31 over the previous year. Two hundred and eight East Indians were in receipt of Government relief in alms houses, lunatic asylums, etc. The Indian population who have been born in Jamaica or who have completed ten years' residence in the island possess the same political rights as the native population and the number of East Indians registered as voters in the year 1925 was 456. The Protector of Immigrants remarks that constant use is made of his office for indentification, interpretation and other purposes and daily application is made by immigrants requiring medical treatment, poor relief, help or advice in connexion with domestic disputes, legal affairs, employment and other matters " that necessarily arise in the life of people who still look to the Department for protection and assistance in all their difficulties and enterprises."

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 4 (Official Monthly Journal of the Labour Movement, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Labour and the Land, by the Rt. Hon. Noel Buxton, M.P.*—Public ownership ; acquisition of the land ; meaning of amenity value ; the state landlord. pp. 147-149.

(2) *The Tory Attack on Constitutional Local Government, by the Rt. Hon. John Wheatley, M.P. (Minister of Health in the Late Labour Government)* pp. 150-152.

(3) *Memories and Reflections, by Propagandist.* pp 153-155.

(4) *The "Open Shop" and the "Shop Union," by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 156-158.

(5) *National Health Insurance from the Labour Point of View, by Gertrude M. Tuckwell.* pp. 159-161.

(6) *"The Scottish Worker" (May 10th to May 15th, 1926), by William Elger, J.P. (Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress General Council).* pp. 162 and 163.

(7) *Why the Great Strike was Worth While, by W. E. Bowen. (President of the Isle of Wight Divisional Labour Party).* pp. 164-167.

(8) *The General Strike in Sweden in 1909, by Sven Backlund. (Foreign Editor of "Ny Tid").* pp. 172-174.

(9) *In the "Eight-fifteen," by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 175-177.

(10) *Nicolas Tcheidze, by D. Sharashidze. (Member of the Georgian Social Democratic Party).* pp. 178 and 179.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 90. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Further Notes on Superannuation Funds, by Bernard Robertson.* pp. 183-185.

(2) *Psychotechnical Examination of Employees. By Dr. Glasel.* Fitness for duties ; psychotechnical examination ; grades examined ; testing the individual ; sorting test ; judgment by results ; engine drivers ; types of tests ; work and sight tests. pp. 185-189.

(3) *Hostels for Industrial Workers, by Constance Ursula Kerr.* pp. 189-195.

(4) *The Duke of York's Camp, by J. C. Paterson, (Camp Chief, 1926).* pp. 196 and 197.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE, VOL. VIII, NO. 91. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Further Notes on Superannuation Funds, by Bernard Robertson.* pp. 218-220.

(2) *Bryant & May's Welfare Work.*—Meals ; medical arrangements ; dental clinics ; laundry and cloak rooms ; social club for girls ; men's clubs ; sports ; long service medals ; works committees ; provident schemes -non-contributory life insurance ; staff pension fund ; savings bank ; tontine societies ; insurance on marriage ; housing ; unemployment relief. pp. 222-227

(3) *Welfare Work in the Dyeing and Cleaning Industry.*—11 Dental scheme. pp. 228-232.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE, VOL. VIII, NO. 92. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Welfare Work during an Industrial Dispute, by Gilbert Hall, B.A. (Chief Organising Lecturer, Notts. and Derbyshire Miners' Welfare Adult Education Joint Committee).* pp. 255-259.

(2) *Pension and Superannuation Funds, by Bernard Robertson.* pp. 259-262.

(3) *The Duke of York's Camp, by A Section Leader.* pp. 262-266.

(4) *A Staff Savings Association, By G. C. Busby.* pp. 269-272.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW, VOL. XIV, NO. 1. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Sources and Interpretation of Labour Law in France, by Edouard Lambert, Paul Pic and P. Garraud. (Professors of the Faculty of Law, Lyons University).*—The relations between industrial and general law in France, the labour code and its relation to other codes, the relations between industrial law and civil law, the scope of industrial law ; the sources of industrial law—judicial practice, legislation : acts and regulations ; the effect of judicial practice in legislation—decisions as to the legal validity of regulations, judicial interpretation of acts ; tribunals administrating industrial law—civil administrative tribunals : civil tribunals, individual disputes, collective disputes ; administrative tribunals ; criminal courts ; the authority of judicial decisions ; conclusion. pp. 1-36.

(2) *Over production and Under consumption : a Remedy, by P. W. Martin.*—The shortage of buying power ; how buying power can be reinforced ; the provision of adequate markets and stabilisation ; conclusion. pp. 37-54.

(3) *Some Experiments in Vocational Psychophysiology, by Dr. Leon Walther.*—(*Director of the Department of Technopsychology, Jean Jacques Rousseau Institute, Geneva.*). Vocational selection, vocational training ; application of motion study to industrial work ; industrial fatigue ; pp. 55-71.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 8. (Harvard Medical School, Baltimore.)

Special Articles : (1) *Reducing the Cost of Syphilis in Industry, by William Alfred Sawyer, M.D , and Benjamin J. Slater, M.D.,* pp. 317-321.

(2) *A Clinical and Laboratory Investigation of the Effect of Metallic Zinc, of Zinc Oxide and of Zinc Sulphide upon the Health of Workmen, by Roger P. Batchelor, M.D., J. William Fehnel, B.S., Robert M. Thomson, and Katherine R. Drinker, M.D.*—Introduction ; review of the literature ; selection of subjects and industrial processes represented—zinc oxide bag rooms, zinc oxide packing houses, French process zinc oxide plant, blue powder or zinc dust plant, lithophone packing house ; zinc concentration in air in parts of plant from which subjects were selected—settling test in bag houses, bag houses : oxide plants A and B, packing houses : oxide plants A and B, French process zinc oxide plant, blue powder or zinc dust plant, lithophone packing house ; possible routes of zinc absorption ; general working conditions ; outline of clinical and laboratory procedures ; results of clinical and laboratory examinations—clinical findings, illustrative case reports, summary of histories and physical examinations, laboratory findings, X-ray examinations, urine, feces, blood, zinc excretion ; summary and conclusions. pp. 322-362.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVI, NO. 7. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles : (1) *Labour Subjects at Recent Session of Dominion Parliament.*—Old age pension bill ; proposed immigration act amendment ; proposed criminal code amendment ; resolution on minimum wage ; Government policy on unemployment relief ; productive labour for prisoners ; workers' right of contract for wages ; utilization of workers' spare time ; revaluation of soldiers' lands. pp. 651-655.

(2) *Labour Conditions in Alberta in 1925.*—Statistics of trade and industries ; minimum wage during 1925 ; steam boilers ; Alberta Government employment offices. pp. 657-660.

(3) *The Creation of Employment during the Winter Months.* pp. 660-662.

(4) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association.* (*Proceedings at Annual Meeting, June 1926*).—Industrial conditions in 1925 ; relations with employees ; resolutions adopted ; Canadian conference committee ; industrial relations ; the 8-hour day ; accident prevention ; industrial disputes investigation act ; minimum wage for boys in Ontario. pp. 662-664.

(5) *Employees' Representation Plan of Dominion Iron and Steel Company, Limited.*—Representations ; voters ; representatives—qualifications and terms ; nominations and elections ; management's representatives ; arrangement of plan and committees ; committee meetings ; procedure ; discrimination ; amendments. pp. 665-666.

(6) *League of Nations International Labour Organization.*—(*Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the International Labour Conference*),—Proceedings of the eighth session—countries represented, Canadian delegation, appointment of committees, officers of the conference, the president's address, inspection of emigrants on board ship, double discussion procedure ; proceedings of the ninth session— countries represented, Canadian delegation, president's address, appointment of committees, credentials, proceedings of the conference, results of the conference, director's report, proposed reference to permanent court of international justice ; proposed draft convention concerning discipline of seamen ; proposed resolution concerning seamen's welfare ; president's closing address ; annual report of the director. pp. 674-692.

(7) *The Indian Trade Union Act.*—Objects on which general funds may be spent ; constitution of a separate fund for political purpose ; criminal conspiracy in trade disputes ; immunity from civil suit in certain cases ; enforceability of agreements ; right to inspect books of Trade Union ; rights of minors to membership of trade unions ; proportion of officers to be connected with the industry. pp. 695-696.

Routine matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The International Landworkers' Federation is holding its ordinary Congress in Geneva, from the 28th to 30th September. The following matters are included on the agenda : The regulation of wages and working conditions of agricultural labourers by means of collective agreements and of legislation, the right of agricultural labourers to combine, and the protection of labour in agriculture. (*From " Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, August 19, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

According to information received from the International Federation of Trade Unions, the membership of the Confederation of Swedish Trade Unions increased from 360,337 in December 1924 to 384,617 in December 1925, *i.e.*, an increase of 24,280. The membership of the principal trade unions is as follows :—

Metal workers	71,000
Unskilled and factory workers	43,250
Railwaymen	34,872
Sawmill workers	33,350
Paper and pulp workers	26,135

(*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.*)

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UNITED KINGDOM

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, continued throughout July and involved over one million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 23 million working days in July. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 66 million up to the end of July.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in July was ten ; in addition, fourteen disputes which began before July were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these twenty-four disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes during July was about 18,000 working days. (*From " Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, August 1926.*)

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At 31st July the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was

approximately 70 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 70 per cent. a month ago and 73 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 61, 61 and 68 respectively.

The only important movements in retail prices during July were increases in the prices of coal and eggs and decreases in those of potatoes. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, August 1926.*)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Since January 1924, the Federal Statistical Office in Germany has published regularly the rates of wages in twelve important groups of industry, as fixed by collective agreement.

The figures relate to the wages of "adult" workers; that is to say, the wages which, as a rule, become payable to a worker between his 21st and his 24th year of age.

In ten groups of industry, wages of male workers only are included in the statistics, while in the case of the textile and cardboard industries the wages of male and of female workers are shown.

As a rule, time rates only are considered; this applies invariably to the wages of unskilled workers.

In industries where payment by the piece predominates (mining, metal-working and textiles), the guaranteed earnings or average earnings of piece-workers have been taken as a basis for the calculation of the wages of skilled workers.

Since January 1924 the changes in wages of skilled and unskilled workers in all the industries included in the statistics have been as follows :—

	Skilled		Unskilled	
	Per hour	Per week	Per hour	Per week
	Pf	M	Pf	M
Jan 1924	59·1	28·45	44·8	23·18
April „	64·9	31·66	45·4	23·55
July „	72·8	35·71	50·8	26·41
Sept. „	73·3	35·95	51·2	26·57
Jan. 1925	79 2	38 78	55·7	28·93
April „	84·4	41·26	59·1	30·54
July „	89·8	43·90	62·8	32 37
Sept. „	91·9	44·90	64·4	33·17
Jan. 1926	94·1	45·98	65·8	33·92
April „	94·1	46·00	65·7	33·89

Figures for 1913 are available, but are not strictly comparable with the post-war statistics.

In 1913, the average hourly rates were 67·3 *pfennings* for skilled workers and 40·2 *pfennings* for unskilled. If these prewar averages are taken as a basis and expressed by 100, the index figures for April 1926 would be 139·8 in the case of skilled workers and 163·4 in the case of unskilled.

If the comparison is limited to the industries in which in 1913 the practice of concluding collective wage agreements was developed to a large extent, the result is as follows :--

	Index figures of			
	Hourly rates		Weekly wages	
	(1913 = 100)			
	Skilled	Unskilled	Skilled	Unskilled
Building trades	161 0	166·0	145·8	150·2
Woodworking	155·7	187·4	142·9	171·2
Printing	157 2	172·6	145·5	159·4
Brewing	148·1	160·7	128 8	139·7

The upward movement of wages which proceeded during 1924 and 1925 ceased at the beginning of the current year. In May and April 1926, the average hourly rates of skilled workers in all industries covered by the statistics were 94·2 *pfennings*. The corresponding rate for unskilled workers was 65·9 *pfennings* for both months. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The economic situation in Germany has led to many dismissals, not only of manual but also of non-manual workers, and the older salaried employees have specially suffered.

In view of this, the Reichstag passed on 2nd July 1926 an "Act relating to the prolongation of the period of notice for the dismissal of older employees," under which all salaried employees with more than five years' service in undertakings employing at least two such employees are given special protection.

The Act defines "employees" as all persons liable to compulsory insurance under section 1 of the Employees' Insurance Act. Whereas, however, section 3 of that Act applies only to persons below a certain salary limit, there is no such limit in the new Act. The number of employees benefiting by it is therefore considerably larger.

The Act provides that such employees may be dismissed only on three months' notice, expiring at the end of a calendar quarter of a year.

The period is raised after eight years' service to four months, after ten years' service to five months, and after twelve years' service to six months. For this purpose only years of service completed after the attainment of twenty-five years of age are counted.

Subject to this, the provisions of existing contracts as to periods of notice, and provisions relating to dismissal without notice, are unaffected. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.*)

At the time of the postwar reconstruction of the French trade unions, a large number of the elementary teachers placed themselves on the side of the organised workers. In the year 1921 the National Union of Teachers affiliated with the Federation of Employees in the Public Services. The Teachers' Congress of 1925 resolved that so far as possible every member of the Union of Teachers should, before the date of the 1926 Congress, be in possession of a card of membership of the French National Trade Union Centre (C. G. T). Thanks to the tremendous propaganda efforts of the National Committee, which, without disturbing existing relations, did everything possible towards arousing the sense of class-consciousness and appreciation of working-class organisation among teachers, complete success can be recorded. Out of the 90 departmental sections (including 7 colonial sections), there is only one which does not report a total number of membership cards of the C. G. T. equivalent to its membership strength. In addition, 436 cards were bought by the sections in Morocco, 300 by the branches in Martinique and 20 in Indo-China. The total number of cards placed was 64,050. Although representation at this year's Congress was made strictly dependent on membership of the C. G.T., only 19 sections recorded a decease in membership, and that slight. Thirty-six sections had kept their membership intact and 31 recorded increases. The teachers' union thus includes the majority of the elementary teachers in France, and is in a position to represent them in negotiations with the education authorities. In a large number of departments the teachers' unions co-operate with the Trade Councils. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, August 19, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

On the 31st July and 1st August a national conference of textile workers was held in Barcelona, at which all the important sections of textile workers in Spain were represented, some of the delegates being women.

The proceedings of the conference were characterised by strict attention to business. After a member of the Provisional Committee had reported on the calling of the Conference and its purpose, making reference in his speech to the difficulties of trade union organisation in the textile industry caused by the very large proportion (about 85 per cent.) of women and juveniles employed, report was made by delegates present as to the observance of the eight-hour day in the separate provinces and districts. It was evident from these reports that in all less well-organised localities the eight-hour day was greatly exceeded. In the machine-made lace factories, in particular, up to 14 hours per day were worked. The underhand attempts on the part of employers to destroy the trade union organisation also came in for some sharp criticism.

The Congress, by an almost unanimous vote, decided to form a Spanish Union of Textile Workers, to be affiliated to the National Trade Union Centre of Spain. This concluded the first business on the agenda.

The second item on the agenda was the attempt by the Textile Manufacturers' Union of Catalonia to abolish the eight-hour day in the textile industry. The afore-mentioned Union had laid proposals before

the Minister of Labour, in connection with which a public inquiry had been instituted by him. The Conference addressed to the Minister a detailed memorandum, in which all the arguments brought forward by the employers were answered. One point on which particular emphasis was laid was the antiquated equipment of the factories, to which must be attributed the high cost of production. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, August 19, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The following table shows the number, extent and results of strikes which broke out in Poland in 1925, as compared with the corresponding data for the preceding year :—

Year	No. of strikes	No. of strikers	Results			
			Complete or partial success		Failure	
			No. of strikes	No. of strikers	No. of strikes	No. of strikers
1924	915	564,134	586	209,796	295	338,067
1925	532	148,527	352	84,382	166	51,036

In fourteen cases affecting 13,109 workers, the result is not known ; the corresponding figures for 1924 are 34 and 16,271.

An analysis of the origin of the strikes shows that 445, involving 96,742 workers, arose out of demands for higher wages or other improvements in conditions of work. Of these, 325, involving 65,529 workers, resulted in complete or partial success, and 114, involving 30,656 workers, failed ; the result of the remaining cases is unknown. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The Council of the Hungarian Federation of Trade Unions recently published statistics of the membership of the affiliated unions.

At the end of 1925, the affiliated unions had 125,024 paying members and 26,711 members in arrears with their contributions. A total of 2538 members emigrated during the year.

For the years 1920 to 1925 the numbers of paid-up members at 31st December were as follows :—

1920	152,441
1921	152,771
1922	202,956
1923	176,401
1924	127,526
1925	125,024

The total number of local branches fell from 698 in 1924 to 644 in 1925, the reduction being attributed chiefly to repressive action by the public authorities. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

In accordance with an Act passed on 6th March 1926, a National Labour Department has been set up in Bolivia. The duties of the department are :—

(1) To enquire into and report on all industrial accidents, including mining accidents ;

(2) To intervene in disputes between employers and workers concerning wages and agreements, with the exception of disputes involving commercial employees, for whom special legislation has been sanctioned ;

(3) To draw up statistics of industrial accidents, cost of living, and conditions of labour, especially in the mining districts ;

(4) To inspect mines, workshops, factories and other industrial establishments, with a view to the better observance of the laws on safety and hygiene ;

(5) To make a collection of all regulations concerning conditions of labour, and to make proposals for reform in all branches of social legislation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.*)

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OTHER COUNTRIES

In compliance with a request of the Chinese Cotton Mills' Association at Shanghai, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has ordered the Provincial Commissioners of Foreign Affairs to see to it that all foreign-owned factories observe the Chinese Provisional Factory Regulations. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

In preparation for the coming into force of the Labour Disputes Arbitration Act, the Social Affairs Bureau organised a training course for arbitration officers and others who would be concerned in its administration.

The course, which occupied six days, began on 24th June. It was attended by officers from all the prefectures.

Mr. Nagaoka, Director-General of the Social Affairs Bureau, gave an inaugural address, in which he laid stress on the importance of securing and preserving a reputation for impartiality in dealing with industrial disputes.

A similar conference of chief factory inspectors from all parts of the country was held in Tokyo on 11th June, for a general discussion on questions concerning the administration of the Factory Act (Amendment) Act.

Mr. Nagaoka, in an opening address to the conference, pointed out that, as a result of this measure, about 20,000 factories employing 150,000

workers would come for the first time within the scope of the Factory Act. This represented an increase of 80 per cent. in the number of factories covered. As a rule, these factories were organised on a small scale, and their owners were not accustomed to the application of legal provisions. The inspectors were therefore urged to make special efforts to spread a knowledge of the law. In view of the apprehensions expressed by some people lest the reduction of working hours should be a blow to industry, every effort should be made to encourage the improvement of industrial efficiency. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 9, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The Social Affairs Bureau published recently the results of an investigation into the number of workers in Japan at the end of last year.

The returns show a total working population (men and women) of 4,467,922.

As compared with the figures for the end of June 1925, there has been an increase of about 90,000 factory workers and 30,000 other workers.

The following table shows how this working population is distributed :

	June 1925	December 1925
FACTORY WORKERS		
State-owned factories		
Men	107,639	118,593
Women	41,659	40,876
Private factories to which the Factory Act applies		
Men	641,889	671,608
Women	821,368	824,826
Factories to which the Factory Act does not apply		
Men	266,950	297,398
Women	127,307	141,791
Total ..	2,006,812	2,095,092
MINING WORKERS		
Men	235,345	230,364
Women	75,436	71,930
Total ..	310,781	302,294
OTHER WORKERS		
Men	1,640,586	1,690,153
Women	390,533	380,383
Total ..	2,031,119	2,070,536
Grand total ..	4,348,712	4,467,922

(*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 9, 1926.*)

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay ..	1. The Central Labour Board.	1. G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. 2. B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union. 3. Port Trust Workshop Union. 4. The Presidency Postmen's Union. 5. The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union. (*a*)	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad. *Vice-President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla.
	2. The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.	1. Bombay Postal Union. 2. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union. 3. Poona Postal Union. 4. Poona R. M. S. Union. 5. Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 6. Belgaum Postal Union. 7. Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 8. Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union. 9. Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union. 10. Ratnagiri Postal Union. 11. Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union. 12. Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union. 13. Baroda Postal Union. 14. Baroda R. M. S. Union. 15. Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 16. Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	*President*—Professor V. G. Kale (Poona). *General Treasurer*—G. K. Rahalkar (P. O. clerk). *Honorary Secretary*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B. (advocate). *General Secretary*—D. S. Joshi (P. O. clerk). *Joint Secretary*—V. H. Karandikar (Town Inspector). *Assistant Secretary*—V. G. Kulkarni, B.A. (P. O. clerk).
	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.	1. The Bombay Postmen's Union. 2. Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 3. Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union. 4. Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	*President*—Jamnadas Madhowji Mehta, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*—V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. H. D. Thakur, B.A., LL.B. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji, B.A., LL.B., Solicitor.

(*a*) The name of the Union has been changed since January 1926.

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay—contd. ..	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.—*contd.*	5. Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 6. Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 7. Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 8. Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. G. Warty, M.A. *Assistant Secretaries*—Dhondu Keshav Tendulkar. Narayen Keshav Indap.
	4. The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union.	1. The Bombay Port Trust Workshop Employees' Union. 2. The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union. 3. The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	(*Provisional*) *President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A *Honorary Treasurer*—Kanji Dwarkadas. *Secretary*—S H. Jhabwalla *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road.
	5. The G. I. P Railway Staff Union.	1. The Wadi Bundar Staff Union. 2. The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union. 3. The G I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union.	(*Not yet appointed.*)
Ahmedabad ..	6. Ahmedabad Labour Union.	1. The Weavers' Union. 2. The Winders' Union. 3. The Throstle Union. 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. 5. The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union. 6. The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	*President*—Miss Anusuya Sarabhai. *Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union—January 1926.	9,640	*President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Vice Presidents*— 1. R. S. Asavale. 2. F. J. Ginwalla. 3. S. K. Bole. 4. S. H. Jhabwalla. *Treasurers*— 1. Kanji Dwarkadas. 2. Syed Munawar.	*General Secretary*—R. R. Bakhale, Servants of India Society, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.—1897.	2,231	*President*—C. W. A. Gidney, Bhusawal. *Vice President*—R. Freeman, Igatpuri. *Treasurer*—C. R. Ray, Kalyan.	*General Secretary*—E. Woodfall, Maneck Building, Vincent Cross Lane, near G.I.P. Dadar, Bombay.
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union—April 1921.	14,973	*President*—J. J. Athaide, B.A., LL. B. *Directors*— 1. Dr. Theodore Fernandes. 2. Rudolf Norona. 3. J. Xavier Gomes. 4. Joasinho Lacardo.	*Secretary*—S. A. Rebello, 149, Carnac Bridge, Frere Road, Bombay.
	4	The B. B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union—July 1920.	797	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. *Vice President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Joint Secretary*—C. Bhukandas, Chargeman, B. B. &. C. I. Railway Workshop, Parel. *Assistants*— 1. M. Bhagwandas. 2. J. Jhaivalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union—May 1919.	1,961	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Assistant Secretary*—V. P. Rele, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	6	The Port Trust Workshop Union—March 1920.	710	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road, Mazagon. *Assistant Secretary*—Sadanand Waman Gadker, 2nd Carpenter Street, Mazagon.
	7	The Clerks' Union—April 1918.	903	*President*—A. R. V. Ranjit, Peerbhoy Mansion, Sandhurst Road. *Vice President*—Samuel Judah, c/o Messrs. Graham and Co., Parsee Bazaar Gate Street, Fort. *Treasurer*—Mr. Subharao, c/o Messrs. Mather Platt and Co.	*Joint Secretaries*—1. Anant Padmanabh, C/o Messrs. Ramsay and Arnold, 11, Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, or Ravte Building, Banam Hall Lane, Girgaum. 2. S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Chinchpokli Mandal)—December 1923.	182	*President*—D. A. Bhatawadekar, Hejib's Chawl, Junction of De'Lisle and Arthur Roads, Chinchpokli, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Shankar Dhaku Kusgaonkar.	*Secretary*—V. G. Sadvelkar.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City —contd.	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union*—January 1926 (This Union has taken over the Bombay members of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union founded in April 1918).	1,237	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice President*—V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law.	*Secretary*—K. S. Perulekar. *Assistant Secretary*—Dhondu K. Tendulkar.
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal)—August 1925.	1,795	*President*—Arjun Atmaram Alve. *Treasurer*—Bhiwa Tanu Alve.	*Secretary* — Dataram Ramchandra Mayekar, Nagoo Sayaji's Wadi, 30, Prabhadevi Road, Bombay.
	11	The Bombay Currency Association — 17th March 1923	226	*President*—R. M. Dongre.	*Secretaries*— 1. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. 2. B. B. Acharya. 3. R. M. Cooper, Currency Office, Esplanade Road.
	12	Bombay Postal Union—1907. (Formerly known as the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club).	1,323		*Secretary*—D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay.
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal)—December 1925.	424	*President*—Shankar Kasiram Murkar.	*Secretary*—S. J. Khamkar, near Ghorupdeo Temple, Bombay.
	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union† —July 1922.	276	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	*Secretary*—S. H Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort. *Assistant Secretary* —W. S. Shitut 43, Tarwadi Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.

*The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union, by which name this Union was formerly known is now an Association of 8 District Postmen's Unions.

†The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union since the 1st January 1926.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City —concld.	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union*—February 1926.	579	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Hon. Treasurer E M. Bahadurji.	*Secretary*—S H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43,Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, China Bazar.
	16	The Seamen's Union—March 1926.	4,000	*President*—L. Pereira (temporary)	Mr. Marcelin Crus, 72, Trinity Street, Dhobi Talao (temporary).
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employee's Union —April 1926.	41	*President*—N. M. Joshi. *Vice-Presidents*—F. J. Ginwalla and Kanji Dwarkadas. *Treasurer*—E M. Bahadurji.	*Hon. Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut.
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees Union —1920.	170	*President*—A B. Kolhatkar *Vice-President*—O. E. Godfrey	*Secretary*—A. Fazan, Goods Foreman, Oil Depot, Sewree. *Assistant Secretary*—B K. Parab, B. P. T. Railway quarters, Jakaria Bunder.
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union—1926.	1,223	*President*—F. J Ginwalla. *Vice-President*—N M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Honorary Treasurer*—Kanji Dwarkadas.	*Honorary Secretary*—S H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road.
	20	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union —1926.	420	*President*—S. C Joshi, M A, LL.B., Advocate.	*Secretary*—P. S. Bakhale.
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union—1926.	135	Do.	Do.
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union—1926.	500†	Do.	Do.
		Total Members, Bombay City.	43,746		

*The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Government Peons' and menials' Union as Government Peons' and menials' Union. † Expected.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	3,155	*President*—Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Mirzapur Road, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Solicitor, Girdhurlal's House, Mandvini Pole, Ahmedabad.
	24	The Winders' Union—June 1920.	..	Do. ..	Do.
	25	The Throstle Union—February 1920.	6,370	Do. ..	Do.
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	2,930	Do. ..	Do.
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and firemen's Union—September 1920.	475	Do. ..	Do.
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union. (March 1926).	100	Do. ..	Do.
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920.	6,049	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Amlini Pole, Raipur, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—B.N. Sandil, Bhow's Pole, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	205	*President*—N. M. Desai, B.A., LL.B., Raipur.	*Secretary*—D. S. Patel, Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Richey Road, Ahmedabad.
		Total Members, Ahmedabad ..	19,284		

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Sukkur ..	31	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920.	2,331		*Labour Organising Secretary*—Pandit Kanwal Nabh, Sukkur. *District Secretary*—S. K. Ram, N. W. Railway Union Office, Sukkur.
Karachi ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920.	3,000	[*Particulars not*	*available.*]
Poona ..	33	The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	110	*President*—John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	*Secretaries*—1. G. T. Sakpal, Yeravda Prison Press, Poona. 2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City. 3. Krishnaji Shridhar Bande, Aryabhushan Press, Poona City. 4. D. S. Raihagkar, Govardhan Press, Poona City.
	34	Poona Postal Union—1919.	243	*President*—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, "Kesari".	*Secretary*—N. V. Bhonde, Poona.
	35	Poona R. M. S. Union—1926.	246		
	36	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1920.	232	*President*—G. K. Gadgil, Bar.-at-Law, Poona. *Vice-President*—D. V. Ambekar. *Hon. Treasurer*—B. G. Mohite.	*Hon. Secretary*—L. V. Jatkar. *Joint Secretary*—H. V. Jadhav. *Assistant Secretary*—V. M. Nisal.
Broach ..	37	The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360		*Secretary*—Dinkarrao Narbheram, Pleader, Broach.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Broach—contd	38	The Saraswati Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360		*Secretary*—Dinkarrao Narbheram, Pleader, Broach.
	39	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	92	*President*—H. D. Thakore.	*Secretary*—K. J. Mishra.
Ahmednagar ..	40	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	257	 *	*Secretary*—Chabukswar, Ahmednagar.
Belgaum ..	41	Belgaum Postal Union—1920.	51		*Secretary*—G. V. Limaye, Belgaum
	42	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	43	*President*—B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C.	*Secretary*—R. S. Kadum.
Dharwar ..	43	Dharwar Postal and R. M S. Union.	152	*President*—V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	*Secretary*—R. M. Betgiri, Dharwar.
Jalgaon ..	44	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	145	*President*—H. V. Kolhatkar.	*Secretary*—H V. Modak.
Nasik ..	45	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	237	*President*—Rao Saheb Gogate.	*Secretary*—R. T. Lele, Nasik.
	46	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	72	*President*—A. B. Kachavale.	*Secretary*—B. K. Panse.
Ratnagiri ..	47	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	258		*Secretary*—A. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
Satara ..	48	Satara Postal and R M. S. Union—1919.	260	*President*—R. V. Deshpande.	*Secretary*—T. K. Datye, Satara.

*Information not received.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Surat ..	49	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union—1921.	226		*Secretary*—B. N. Mistry, Surat.
	50	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	80	*President*—V. C Jadhav.	*Secretary*—S. V. Vohra.
Baroda ..	51	Baroda Postal Union—1920.	173	*President*—C. M. Doctor.	*Secretary*—R. J Shah, Baroda.
	52	Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924.	234	*President*—Kalekar.	
	53	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	42	*President*—D. N Chitre.	*Secretary*—B. B. Palekar.
Bhavnagar ..	54	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	75	.	*Secretary*—T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
Rajkot ..	55	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	71	. . .	*Secretary*—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Karwar ..	56	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	31	*President*—H. B. Kamat.	*Secretary*—L. V. Gaokar.
		Total Members, Rest of the Presidency .	9,381		
		Total Members, Bombay Presidency .	72,411		

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City— ..	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union.	1,574	As. 4 per month ..	1,033
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,500	Rs. 1-8-0 per month for those earning over Rs. 100 ("A" class members); Re. 1 per month for those earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 ("B" class members); As. 12 per month for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 ("C" class members); As. 6 per month for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 ("D" class members); and As. 3 for those earning less than Rs. 25 ("E" class members).	2,425
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union.	240	Rs. 3 per year ..	835
	4	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union.	317	As. 2 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50.	185
	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.	652	Do. ..	162

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—contd.	6	The Port Trust Workshop Union.	262	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	90
	7	The Clerks' Union.	24	As. 4 per month ..	7
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Chinchpokli Mandal).	Nil	Re. 1 per year ..	12
	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union.*	327	As. 4 per month for postmen (overseers, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for packers (runners, local peons, boy messengers and packers).	353
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	343	As. 4 per month ..	186
	11	The Bombay Currency Association.	38	Rs. 3 for clerks and annas 8 for menials per year.	29
	12	Bombay Postal Union.	472	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	499
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	102	As. 4 per month ..	77

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—contd.	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.*	76	As. 4 per month ..	41
	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union.	121	Do. ..	70
	16	The Seamen's Union.	1,138	Rs. 3 per year ..	780
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employees' Union	10	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union	60	As. 2 to As. 8 per month according to pay.	50
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	555	As. 8 per month for clerks and Superior Staff; As. 4 for adult menials and As. 2 for boy menials per month.	134
	20	The Wadi Bunder Staff Union.	125	Six annas and four annas per month according to pay.	25
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union.	40	As. 4 per month for clerical staff and As. 2 per month below clerical.	10
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union.	..	*Not Yet decided.*	
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union.	900	As. 4 per month..	175
	24	The Winders' Union.	..	As. 2 per month ..	

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ahmedabad—contd	25	The Throstle Union.	1,250	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker per fortnight.	500
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	650	As. 4 per month ..	225
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union	125	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fireman per month.	15
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	..	As. 8 per jobber or mukadam per month.	
	29	The B. B. & C. I Railway Employees' Association.	*..	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; and Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	350
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	5	As. 8 per clerk, As. 2 below clerk per month.	8
Sukkur ..	31	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	231	Subscription at the rate of ½ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	50
Karachi ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	*(Particulars not available)*		
Poona ..	33	The Press Workers' Union.	4	As. 12 per year ..	About 2

* Not reported.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
	34	Poona Postal Union.	76	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	87
	35	Poona R. M. S. Union.	118	Do. ..	162
	36	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	41	As. 4 per month ..	36
Broach ..	37	The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union.	90	Do. ..	*Nil.* *
	38	The Saraswati Mill Labour Union.	90	Do. ..	*Nil.* *
	39	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	23	Do. ..	10 †
Ahmednagar ..	40	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	203	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	190
Belgaum ..	41	Belgaum Postal Union.	17	Do. ..	17
	42	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	14	As. 4 per month ..	10
Dharwar ..	43	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	51	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	4
Jalgaon ..	44	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	49	Do. ..	21
Nasik ..	45	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	31	Do. ..	23

* Except some casual printing charges. † Approximate.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available.	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
	46	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	18	As. 4 per month ..	10*
Ratnagiri ..	47	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	12	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	1
Satara ..	48	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	113	Do. ..	101
Surat ..	49	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	35	Do. ..	52
	50	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	15	As. 4 per month ..	8
Baroda ..	51	Baroda Postal Union.	32	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	24
	52	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	80	Do. ..	46
	53	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	10*
Bhavnagar ..	54	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	..†	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	 †
Rajkot ..	55	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	62	Do. ..	7
Karwar ..	56	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	8	As. 4 per month ..	8*

* Approximate. † Not reported.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN AUGUST 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1926	1926		
1. The Bharat Spinning and Weaving Mills, Hubli.	375	.	1 Aug.	3 Aug.	Alleged reduction in the wage rate and increase in fines.	Work was resumed after a compromise.
2. The Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.	500	..	9 Aug.	10 Aug.	Damaged Cloth was given to seven weavers in lieu of cash wages.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
3. The Bombay Woollen Mill, Dadar, Bombay.	120	.	14 Aug.	24 Aug.	Demand for better wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
4. The Century Mill, DeLisle Road, Bombay.	35	...	15 Aug.	19 Aug.	In sympathy with a dismissed oiler.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
5. The Emperor Edward Mills, Reay Road, Bombay.	330	...	17 Aug.	31 Aug.	Alleged reduction in wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The Ahmedabad Lakshmi Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Kankaria Road, Ahmedabad.	40	...	20 Aug.	22 Aug.	In sympathy with a jobber who absented himself as a result of some quarrel with another jobber.	New hands were employed.
Miscellaneous						
7. Conservancy Branch of the Health Department, Municipality of Bombay, Bombay.	5,500	...	24 Aug.	30 Aug.	Alleged proposed discontinuance of Rs. 5 monthly grain compensation allowance.	Ended in favour of the employers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING AUGUST 1926

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	323	40	186	28(b)	2	1	69	16	438	53	509	70
Woollen Mills ..	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	..
Others ..	5	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	5	..	7	..
Total ..	331	40	190	28	2	1	71	16	448	53	521	70
II Workshops—												
Engineering ..	18	2	229	20	..	..	10	2	237	20	247	22
Railway ..	87	19	1,125	100	2	1	25	10	1,186	108	1,213	119
Mint ..	1	..	1(c)	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	2	1
Others ..	10	4	25	15	1	..	2	1	32	18	35	19
Total ..	116	25	1,380	136	3	1	38	14	1,456	146	1,497	161
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works .	1	..	2	1	1	.	..	..	2	1	3	1
Flour Mills ..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	3	1
Printing Presses..	5	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	12	..
Others ..	6	3	34	4	1	..	5	1	34	6	40	7
Total ..	13	4	45	5	2	..	5	2	51	7	58	9
Total, All Factories ..	460	69	1,615	169	7	2	114	32	1,955	206	2,076	240

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	156	21	77	7	2	..	27	2	204	26	233	28
Total ..	156	21	77	7	2	..	27	2	204	26	233	28
II Miscellaneous—												
Match Factory ..	1	:	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	..	1	..	..	.	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	2		3	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	5	..
Total, All Factories ..	158	21	80	7	3	..	27	2	208	26	238	28

Explanations :—" Fatal " means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
" Serious " means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
" Minor " means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.
(*c*) 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING AUGUST 1926—*contd.*

3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to July 1926	Machinery in motion — Aug 1926	Other causes — Jan to July 1926	Other causes — Aug 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to July 1926	Fatal — Aug 1926	Serious — Jan to July 1926	Serious — Aug 1926	Minor — Jan to July 1926	Minor — Aug 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Jan to July 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Aug 1926
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..	1	1	14	3	1	..	1	.	13	4	15	4
Engineering ..	1	1	13	..	..	.	1	.	13	1	14	1
Total ..	2	2	27	3	1	.	2	.	26	5	29	5
II Miscellaneous—	2	..	8	1			1	..	9	1	10	1
Total ..	2	.	8	1		.	1	..	9	1	10	1
Total, All Factories ..	4	2	35	4	1	.	3	..	35	6	39	6

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to July 1926	Machinery in motion — Aug 1926	Other causes — Jan to July 1926	Other causes — Aug 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to July 1926	Fatal — Aug 1926	Serious — Jan to July 1926	Serious — Aug 1926	Minor — Jan to July 1926	Minor — Aug 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Jan to July 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Aug 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	67	8	58	8	2	2	16	4	107	10	125	16
Others ..	4	..	3	..	..	.	3	.	4	..	7	..
Total ..	71	8	61	8	2	2	19	4	111	10	132	16
II Workshops—												
Railway ..	23	5	141	11	..	.	10	2	154	14	164	16
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	3	.	4	..	.	..	1	..	6	..	7	..
Others .	9	..	17	2	1	.	4	..	21	2	26	2
Total ..	35	5	162	13	1	..	15	2	181	16	197	18
III Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories .	5	.	13(a)	..	2	..	8	.	11	..	21	..
Paint Works .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others .	7	4	9(b)	1	4	..	4	..	10	5	21	5
Total ..	12	4	22	1	6		12	..	21	5	39	5
Total, All Factories ..	118	17	245	22		2	46	6	313	31	368	39

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(a) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(b) 3 persons affected by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of July			Four months ended July		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	,, ..	5,999	6,561	7,891	20,219	25,921	27,301
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	,, ..	19,483	19,989	19,459	69,155	79,725	73,274
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	,, ..	13,720	14,123	15,300	54,157	58,072	62,000
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	,, ..	1,287	1,220	1,783	5,461	4,796	6 813
Above 40 ..	,, ..	408	477	910	1,48	1,774	3,218
Waste, etc. ..	,, ..	11	85	89	47	137	466
	Total ..	40,908	42,455	45,432	150,519	170,425	173,072

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	,, ..	5,382	5,799	7,065	18,005	23,261	24,377
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	,, ..	13,456	12,955	13,302	46,950	52,744	49,318
Nos. 21 to 30 .	,, ..	8,694	9,050	9,445	33,401	37,966	38,663
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	,, ..	729	640	899	2,893	2,606	3,075
Above 40 ..	,, ..	216	3.6	348	737	1,082	1,193
Waste, etc. ..	,, ..	3	76	79	13	102	424
	Total ..	28,520	28,836	31,138	101,999	117,791	117,050

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	,, ..	218	280	247	774	867	845
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	,, ..	3,353	4,006	3,372	11,996	15,081	13,310
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	,, ..	3,764	3,900	4,292	15,919	15,551	17,182
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	,, ..	407	394	734	1,938	1,455	2,947
Above 40 ..	,, ..	147	105	441	581	477	1,557
Waste, etc. ..	,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	.
	Total ..	7,889	8 685	9,086	31.208	33,431	35,841

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of July			Four months ended July		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,141	1,252	1,511	3,509	3,751	4,024
Chudders „ ..	1,278	1,354	1,868	4,265	4,831	6,233
Dhotis „ ..	5,830	6,229	8,059	22,702	26,349	30,973
Drills and jeans „ ..	1,169	807	709	4,299	4,012	3,845
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	41	39	37	287	269	93
Printers „ ..	208	117	135	1,256	946	720
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	9,028	8,172	10,585	33,015	33 202	42,697
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	1,227	865	1,221	3,585	4,018	4,561
Tent cloth „ ..	210	148	72	539	484	156
Other sorts „ ..	488	539	405	2,107	2,190	1,904
Total „ ..	20,620	19,522	24,602	75,564	80,052	95,206
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	8,053	8,424	9,128	29,973	30,595	36,955
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	170	247	208	641	1,040	1,166
Hosiery „ ..	8	19	19	49	71	99
Miscellaneous „ ..	107	81	236	463	539	945
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	2	60	144	18	225	715
Grand Total „ ..	28,960	28,353	34,337	106,708	112,522	135,086

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	758	1,008	1,371	2,384	2,940	3,593
Chudders „ ..	749	918	1,364	2,570	3,262	4,468
Dhotis „ ..	2,091	2,205	2,528	6,850	8,840	9,516
Drills and jeans „ ..	1,092	718	632	3,926	3,594	3,507
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	38	17	4	241	181	18
Printers „ ..	..	5	..	15	12	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	6,973	6,079	8,074	28,455	24,877	33,323
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	952	607	791	2,821	2,957	3,169
Tent cloth „ ..	120	111	69	309	366	132
Other sorts „ ..	280	216	241	940	928	1,102
Total „ ..	13,053	11,884	15,074	43,511	47,957	58,848
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	6,578	6,429	6,394	22,920	21,920	25,814
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	158	239	200	618	999	1,128
Hosiery „ ..	5	7	4	24	21	19
Miscellaneous „ ..	87	71	184	410	488	773
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	1	49	121	12	211	413
Grand Total „ ..	19,882	18,679	21,977	67,495	71,596	86,995

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of July			Four months ended July		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,, ..	262	66	30	735	214	95
Chudders ,, ..	348	323	386	1,326	1,245	1352
Dhotis ,, ..	3,033	3,033	4,477	12,135	12,937	17,606
Drills and jeans ,, ..	26	34	28	109	219	120
Cambrics and lawns ,, ..	3	21	32	39	74	72
Printers ,, ..	134	68	75	791	521	394
Shirtings and long cloth ,, ..	1,673	1,747	1,929	7,846	6,471	7,080
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings ,, ..	264	241	341	706	977	1,063
Tent cloth ,, ..	88	31	1	204	91	7
Other sorts ,, ..	151	253	87	800	880	448
Total ,, ..	5,982	5,817	7,386	24,691	23,629	28 237
Coloured piece-goods ,, ..	750	1,190	1,634	4,171	5,532	7,375
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ,, ..	..		1	2	4	5
Hosiery ,, ..	3	12	15	25	49	80
Miscellaneous ,, ..	21	9	50	54	44	170
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,, ..	1	11	20	2	11	294
Grand Total ,, ..	6,757	7,039	9,106	28,945	29,269	36,161

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926	July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md	4 11 3	6 7 10	6 11 7	6 12 7	100	138	143	144
Wheat .. .	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 7 3	..	8 5 6	100	151	.	149
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	71 0 0	72 8 0	100	156	158	161
Do. .. .	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	60 0 0	51 8 0	53 8 0	100	150	129	134
Jowari	Cawnpore ..	Maund	3 2 6	4 3 9	4 2 0[1]	4 7 1[1]	100	134	131	141
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 5 5	4 12 2	4 8 10	100	132	145	139
Bajri	Ghati .	,,	3 4 6	5 3 0	5 8 1	5 8 1	100	158	168	168
Index No.—Cereals ..			..	..	..	..	100	146	146	148
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 2 0	5 1 3	5 8 1	100	97	120	130
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	5 13 1	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	103	135	135
Index No.—Pulses ..		.	.	.	..		100	100	128	133
Index No.—Food grains ..		. ..	..	.		..	100	135	141	145
Sugar—										
Sugar .. .	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	15 0 0	..	.	100	163	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	15 1 6	15 8 0	16 0 0	100	148	152	157
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	12 14 10	10 9 10	10 9 10	100	164	135	135
Index No.—Sugar ..			.	..	..	..	100	158	144	146
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri .	Maund	5 9 3	11 9 0	7 7 9	7 1 2	100	207	134	127
Ghee	Deshi .	,,	45 11 5	85 11 5	80 0 0	80 0 0	100	188	175	175
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	153	136	136
Index No.—Other food ..			..	.	..	..	100	183	148	146
Index No —All Food ..			.	.	..	..	100	149	143	145
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 2 0	11 4 0	10 14 0	100	147	126	122
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	12 2 0	11 6 0	11 4 0	100	152	142	141
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 13 0	14 8 0	15 0 0	100	127	133	138
Gingelly seed	White ..	.	11 4 0	15 0 0	17 12 0	.	100	133	158	.
Index No —Oilseeds .			..	..	..	.	100	140	140	134

Textile Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw—											
Broach	Fully good		Candy	251 0 0	462 0 0	342 0 0	350 0 0	100	184	136	139
Oomra	Do.		,,	222 0 0	..	330 0 0	341 0 0	100	..	149	154
Dharwar	Saw-ginned		,,	230 0 0		352 0 0	360 0 0	100	.	153	157
Khandesh	Machine-ginned		,,	205 0 0	..	299 0 0	308 0 0	100		146	150
Bengal	Do.		,,	198 0 0	.	270 0 0	291 0 0	100	..	136	147
Index No.—Cotton, raw			...	.	.	.	..	100	184	144	149
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Twist	40S		Lb.	0 12 9	1 8 0	1 3 6	1 3 6	100	188	153	153
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000		Piece	5 15 0	11 12 0	9 12 0	9 8 0	100	198	164	160
White mulls	6,000		,,	4 3 0	10 12 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	257	233	233
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500		,,	10 6 0	22 12 0	20 0 0	19 6 0	100	219	193	187
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.		Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 3	1 0 3	1 0 3	100	192	171	171
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.		,,	0 9 6	1 1 3	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	181	163	163
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			...	.	..	..	..	100	206	180	178
Index No.—Textile—Cotton			...	.	.	..	.	100	203	163	165
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow		Lb.	5 2 6	7 10 7	5 13 7	5 13 7	100	149	113	113
Do.	Mathow Lari		,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 4 10	4 4 10	100	160	146	146
Index No.—Other Textiles			..	.	.	.	.	100	155	130	130
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned		Lb.	1 2 6	2 2 9	1 9 2	1 5 9	100	188	136	118
Do. Buffalo	Do.		,,	1 1 3	1 0 10	1 0 3	0 12 4	100	98	94	72
Skins, Goat	Do		,,	1 4 0	2 7 4	2 10 2	2 6 7	100	197	211	193
Index No.—Hides and Skins			..	.	.	..	..	100	161	147	128
Metals—											
Copper braziers			Cwt.	60 8 0	63 8 0	58 0 0	57 0 0	100	105	96	94
Iron bars			,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	100	175	175	163
Steel hoops			,,	7 12 0	11 4 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	145	129	129
Galvanised sheets			,,	9 0 0	13 8 0	13 14 0	13 14 0	100	150	154	154
Tin plates			Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194
Index No.—Metals			..	.	.	.	..	100	153	150	147
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria		Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	155	142	142
Do.	Imported		,,	19 11 6	24 11 1	19 2 0	18 14 7	100	125	97	96
Kerosene	Elephant Brand		2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 0	7 6 6	100	170	169	169
Do.	Chester Brand		Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	100	185	185	186
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles			...	.	..	..	..	100	159	148	148
Index No.—Food				..	.	.	..	100	149	143	145
Index No.—Non-food				..	..		..	100	167	152	149
General Index No.				..	..		.	100	160	149	148

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926	July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—					(1)	(1) (3)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	59 12 0	60 8 0	67 12 0	100	153	155	174
Wheat, white	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 30 % red.	,,	31 8 0	45 0 0	44 0 0	42 8 0	100	143	140	135
,, red	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 92 % red.	,,	31 4 0	44 0 0	43 0 0	41 8 0	100	141	138	133
,, white	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt	,,	32 8 0	46 6 0	45 4 0	43 12 0	100	143	139	135
,, red	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt	,,	32 4 0	45 6 0	44 4 0	42 12 0	100	141	137	133
Jowari	Export quality	,,	25 8 0	39 12 0	43 8 0	39 4 0	100	156	171	154
Barley	3 % dirt	,,	26 8 0	35 12 0	36 8 0	37 0 0	100	135	138	140
Index No.—Cereals							100	145	145	143
Pulses—					(2)					
Gram	1 % dirt	Candy	29 8 0	33 4 0	39 8 0	40 0 0(2)	100	113	134	136
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	14 9 0	14 13 0	15 1 0	100	160	162	165
,,	,, brown	,,	8 1 6			14 2 0	100			175
Index No.—Sugar							100	100	162	170
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	1 11 0	100	79	78	79
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 10 0	3 11 0	3 10 0	100	134	136	134
Rapeseed, bold	3 % admixture	Candy	51 0 0	74 0 0			100	145		..
Gingelly	Black 9 % admixture	,,	62 0 0	86 0 0			100	139		..
Index No.—Oilseeds	...		..				100	139	136	134
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	64 4 0	50 8 0	50 0 0	100	168	132	131

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw .. .	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	42 12 0	32 8 0	33 8 0	100	211	160	165
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	19 12 0	19 2 0	18 12 0	100	193	187	183
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	100	217	198	198
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..							100	205	193	191
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..							100	207	182	182
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	46 0 0	32 0 0	34 0 0	100	164	114	121
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
Index No—Hides ..							100	64	56	56
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 0 0	58 0 0	58 0 0	100	102	96	96
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	6 8 0	5 8 0	5 14 0	100	168	142	152
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	7 4 0	5 12 0	5 8 0	100	166	131	126
Index No.—Metals ..							100	145	123	125
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 2 0	21 4 0	100	144	132	133
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	183	183
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	165	163	163
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	164	159	160
Index No.—Food ..							100	136	139	142
Index No.—Non-food .							100	152	135	136
General Index No. ..							100	146	137	138

* Yarns (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotations for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1923														
August	120	85	202	343	176	131	210	209	195	138	178	168	176	176
1924														
August	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
November	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a)164	(a)158
November	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February	143	117	148	158	143	129	159	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100(f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	96	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105(m)
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	265	.	275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	206
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 "	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 "	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 "	157	170	144	(a) 149	(f) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173(m)
1925 January	157	180	149	.	.	580	521	..	170	133	..	..
" February	157	179	150	.	161	592	517	.	170	133	.	.
" March	159	179	148	150	.	602	511	271	170	133	386	.
" April	158	175	147	.	.	600	506	..	168	134	..	..
" May	156	173	146	.	.	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
" June	154	172	146	153	.	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
" July	157	173	146	..	.	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
" August	152	173	149	..	163	610	517	..	167	132	..	.
" September	151	174	149	155	..	624	525	248	167	132	401	.
" October	153	176	149	..	.	643	533	..	165	132	..	..
" November	153	176	152	..	.	643	534	.	165	131	..	..
" December	155	177	154	156	.	640	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155	.	..	665	527	..	167	131	..	..
" February	154	173	154	..	162	661	526	.	165	131	..	..
" March	155	172	154	156	..	654	521	225	.	131	451	..
" April	153	168	153	..	..	642	529	.	.	131	..	..
" May	153	167	152	.	..	652	558	.	160	132	..	..
" June	155	168	150	..	..	650	579	218	162	131	485	..
" July	157	170	..	..	.	..	637	.	..	.	.	..
" August	155	170	..	..	163	..	..	..	.	.	.	..
" September	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	.	.	..

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	51	92	24	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100	..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100(f)	100	100
1914 ,, ..	100	96	..	..	106	(e) 100	..	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,, ..		97	..	..	147	102	..	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,, ..		117	..	..	138	124	..	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,, ..		149	..	..	153	169	..	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,, ..	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,, ..	222	236	..	..	189	226	..	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,, ..	216	259	152	203	228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,, ..	199	200	150	..	175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,, ..	187	196	146	..	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,, ..	181	199	156	..	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,, ..	182	207	154	..	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
,, August ..	184	200	149	..	169	143	165	477	151	274	152	157	150
,, September ..	181	207	149	..	170	147	167	486	158	275	153	154	149
,, October ..	181	213	153	..	171	156	170	497	161	276	162	157	152
,, November ..	176	214	155	..	171	158	170	504	161	277	162	158	153
,, December ..	176	214	157	..	173	156	170	507	160	278	163	161	157
1925 January ..	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
,, February ..	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
,, March ..	171	204	160	176	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
,, April ..	165	202	159	..	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
,, May ..	164	199	158	..	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June ..	160	200	157	..	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July ..	158	198	163	..	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August ..	160	200	160	..	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September ..	157	201	160	..	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October ..	(b) 158	200	159	.	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November .	(b) 160	197	158	..	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
,, December ..	(b) 154	194	158	..	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	..	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February .	(b) 151	188	163	..	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March .	(b) 150	184	164	..	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April ..	151	181	163	..	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May ..	151	177	160	..	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June ..	150	177	156	..	..	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July ..	149	..	157	..	..	..	149	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, August ..	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a)100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 ,,	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 ,,	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 ,,	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214 g	181	166	178
1918 ,,	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,,	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,,	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,,	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,,	166	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e)184	157
1923 ,,	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	(e)188	166
1924 ,,	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e)200	170
1925 January	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,100	150	277	170	..	168
,, February	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,089	155	283	170	..	168
,, March	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
,, April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
,, May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	..	265	169	..	165
,, June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
,, July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
,, August	147	168	146	119	156	152	..	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	..	228	166	..	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1 108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062		216	162	..	167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	..	205	159	..	..
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	.	198	158	..	..
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	.	1,041	..	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	..	1,052	..	..	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	..	..	159	149	..	574	..	..	.	..	198	156	..	..
,, August	153	161	..	..	..	..	.	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, September	152	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	.	.	..	..	.	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN JULY AND AUGUST 1926

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay July 1926	Karachi July 1926	Ahmedabad July 1926	Sholapur July 1926	Poona July 1926	Bombay August 1926	Karachi August 1926	Ahmedabad August 1926	Sholapur August 1926	Poona August 1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs a p	Rs a p.	Rs. a p	Rs. a. p	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 *135*	8 14 3 *133*	8 14 3 *144*	8 3 7 *156*	7 11 1 *133*	7 8 9 *135*	8 14 3 *133*	8 14 3 *144*	8 0 4 *152*	8 12 8 *152*
Wheat	„ ..	7 5 8 *131*	6 2 6 *146*	7 4 4 *154*	6 13 8 *133*	8 0 0 *149*	7 9 7 *136*	6 2 6 *146*	7 4 4 *154*	6 12 6 *131*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	„ ..	5 9 10 *129*	4 11 4 *130*	5 5 4 *140*	3 9 0 *124*	5 0 8 *147*	5 11 2 *121*	4 11 4 *130*	5 5 4 *140*	3 7 1 *120*	5 3 10 *153*
Bajri	„ ..	6 7 10 *150*	6 12 11 *162*	6 10 8 *142*	5 0 3 *143*	5 13 9 *143*	6 2 9 *143*	6 10 8 *158*	6 10 8 *142*	4 12 10 *137*	6 0 1 *146*
Index No.—Cereals		*136*	*143*	*145*	*139*	*143*	*136*	*142*	*145*	*135*	*150*
Pulses -											
Gram	Maund ..	6 6 9 *149*	5 10 7 *149*	5 11 5 *143*	5 4 11 *124*	5 7 1 *112*	6 3 7 *143*	5 7 6 *144*	5 11 5 *143*	5 6 1 *125*	5 7 1 *112*
Turdal	„ ..	7 13 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	10 0 0 *162*	7 5 8 *126*	8 10 0 *131*	7 13 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	10 0 0 *162*	7 10 2 *131*	8 14 3 *135*
Index No.—Pulses .. .		*142*	*135*	*153*	*125*	*122*	*139*	*132*	*153*	*128*	*124*

Other articles of food –											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund ..	14 4 7 *187*	12 8 9 *173*	14 8 9 *182*	14 8 9 *145*	15 5 0 *164*	13 11 1 *180*	11 10 2 *160*	13 5 4 *167*	13 14 7 *139*	14 15 3 *160*
Jagri (gul) ..		14 4 7 *167*	11 13 8 *170*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 3 1 *145*	14 4 7 *167*	11 10 2 *167*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 3 1 *145*
Tea ..	Lb ..	0 15 5 *198*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 2 11 *230*	0 15 2 *194*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 2 11 *230*
Salt ..	Maund ..	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*
Beef ..	Seer .	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 5 6 *92*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 6 *190*	0 5 5 *90*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*
Mutton .		0 11 3 *169*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 10 11 *164*	0 10 9 *179*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*
Milk ..	Maund ..	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	12 4 11 *246*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	11 0 7 *221*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*
Ghee .. .		96 6 10 *190*	77 9 4 *182*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	78 0 9 *151*	97 9 11 *192*	77 9 4 *182*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	84 3 4 *163*
Potatoes .. .		10 1 11 *226*	8 0 0 *148*	10 0 0 *263*	10 0 0 *250*	7 0 3 *208*	7 11 10 *173*	10 0 0 *184*	8 14 3 *234*	16 0 0 *400*	9 9 9 *285*
Onions .. .		4 2 8 *268*	2 8 0 *138*	2 8 0 *125*	3 10 2 *145*	3 0 6 *151*	4 12 2 *307*	2 11 2 *148*	3 1 3 *154*	3 5 4 *133*	3 5 4 *166*
Cocoanut oil .. .	.. .	28 9 2 *113*	26 10 8 *108*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	26 10 8 *108*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*
Index No.—Other articles of food ..	..	*184*	*165*	*172*	*164*	*160*	*182*	*170*	*169*	*176*	*169*
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*168*	*156*	*164*	*153*	*151*	*166*	*159*	*161*	*160*	*159*

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1923									
September	124	116	123	194	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
November .. .	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September .. .	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, OCTOBER, 1926 [No. 2

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

The Labour Office is endeavouring to obtain statistics on this subject. A circular letter has been issued to all employers of clerical labour including Government offices asking them to enlist the services of their employees in obtaining information regarding individuals out of employment, and in filling up schedules specially prepared for the purpose. Colleges and schools are also being asked to assist.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of September 1926. The average absenteeism was 12 66 per cent. for Bombay City, 3·14 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 1·18 per cent. for Viramgaum, 12·77 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·27 per cent. for Broach.

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13·70 per cent. in the Engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 21·59 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 10 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 9·20.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In October 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 155, the same as in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 153.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 149 for the month of September 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were three industrial disputes in progress during September 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 3778 and the number of working days lost 3558.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During September 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 2,72 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for October 1926

INDEX REMAINS STATIONARY

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **55 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **53 per cent.**

In October 1926,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index was 155 both in September and October 1926. The general index was 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and on a par with the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a rise of 1 point during the month. There was a rise of 2 points each in jowari and turdal and of 6 points in gram. Wheat and bajri declined by 2 points each while the price of rice remained the same. Amongst other food articles sugar (refined) registered a decrease of 7 points but gul remained stationary. Tea went up by 4 points, mutton by 7 points and ghee by 3 points. Onions further advanced by 39 points but the price of potatoes showed no change. Cocoanut oil was cheaper by 3 points. The " other food " index was 180 as against 179 in September 1926.

The " Fuel and Lighting " index was stationary at 164, there being no change in any of the items included in that group. The clothing group registered a further fall of 1 point thus reaching the lowest level (159) in 1926.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	55
February ..	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	54
March ..	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	55
April ..	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	53
May ..	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	53
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	55
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	57
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	55
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	55
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	55
November..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	
December..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between September 16 and October 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—OCTOBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·547	7·547	391·58	528·29	528·29
Wheat	,,	21	5·594	7·438	7·354	117·47	156·20	154·43
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5·698	5·781	47·89	62·68	63·59
Bajri	,,	6	4·313	6·568	6·490	25·88	39·41	38·94
Total—Cereals	..	..				582·82	786·58	785·25
Index Numbers—Cereals	..	..	..			*100*	*135*	*135*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·417	6·682	43·02	64·17	66·82
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	7·922	8·089	17·53	23·77	24·27
Total—Pulses	..	..	.	. .		60·55	87·94	91·09
Index Numbers—Pulses	..	..		. .	..	*100*	*145*	*150*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7 620	14 287	13·693	15·24	28·57	27 39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	14 287	14·287	59·90	100 01	100·01
Tea	,,	½	40·000	77 375	78·630	1 00	1 93	1 97
Salt	,,	5	2·130	3 313	3 313	10 65	16·57	16·57
Beef	Seer	28	0 323	0 547	0·547	9 04	15 32	15 32
Mutton	,,	33	0·417	0·682	0 714	13 76	22 51	23 56
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246 16	246·16
Ghee	,,	1½	50·792	94 057	95·240	76 19	141 09	142·86
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	7·141	7 141	49 27	78 55	78 55
Onions	,,	3	1·552	5·359	5·953	4 66	16 08	17·86
Cocoanut Oil	,,	½	25 396	28 573	27 974	12·70	14 29	13·99
Total—Other food articles	..	..				381·18	681·08	684·24
Index Numbers—Other food articles	..	..				*100*	*179*	*180*
Total—All food articles	..	..				1,024·55	1,555·60	1,560 58
Index Numbers—All food articles	..	..				*100*	*152*	*153*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7 406	7·406	21·88	37 03	37·03
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·49
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0 771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting	..	..				60·44	99·29	99·29
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting	..	..				*100*	*164*	*164*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb	27	0·594	0·969	0·969	16·04	26·16	26·16
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	1·052	1·021	16·03	26·30	25·53
T. Cloth	,,	36	0·583	0·906	0·906	20·99	32·62	32·62
Total—Clothing	..	..				53·06	85·08	84·31
Index Numbers—Clothing	..	..				*100*	*160*	*159*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent	..	..				*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total	..	..		..		**1,251·07**	**1,934·37**	**1,938 58**
Cost of Living Index Number.	..	..				**100**	**155**	**155**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in September and October 1926 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

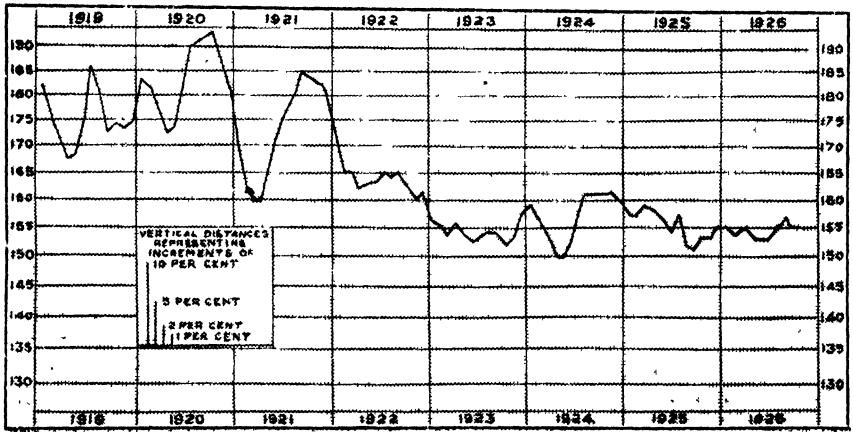
Articles	July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Oct 1926 over or below Sept 1926	Articles	July 1914	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Oct 1926 over or below Sept 1926
Rice ..	100	135	135	..	Salt ..	100	156	156	..
Wheat ..	100	133	131	— 2	Beef ..	100	169	169	..
Jowari ..	100	131	133	+ 2	Mutton ..	100	164	171	+ 7
Bajri ..	100	152	150	— 2	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	149	155	+ 6	Ghee ..	100	185	188	+ 3
Turdal ..	100	136	138	+ 2	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	..
Sugar (refined)	100	187	180	— 7	Onions ..	100	345	384	+39
Raw sugar (gul)	100	167	167	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	110	— 3
Tea ..	100	193	197	+ 4	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	152	153	+ 1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 26, Wheat 24, Jowari 25, Bajri 30, Gram 35, Turdal 28, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 41, Mutton 42, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 37, Onions 74, Cocoanut Oil 9.

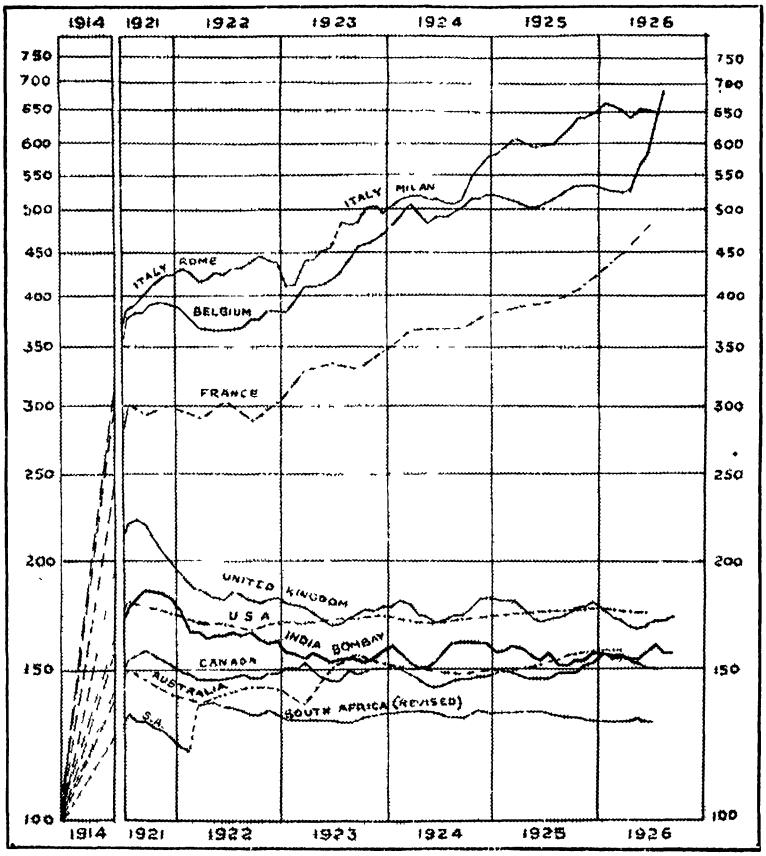
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 5 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos : (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922 and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working class only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A rise of one point

In September 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 149 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with August 1926, there was a rise of 3 points in the food group and of one point in the non-food group. The general index number was 114 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 14 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

A rise of two points in Cereals was partially counter-balanced by a fall of 3 points in Pulses and the index number for food grains registered a rise of one point. Rice and wheat remained stationary, jowari and bajri recorded increases of 7 and 16 points respectively whilst barley declined by 7 points. Gram fell by 5 points but turdal showed no change.

There was a rise of 2 points in the index for "Other food" articles. Turmeric went up by 12 points, ghee declined by 6 points, while the price of salt remained the same. The index number for "Sugar" was 156 as compared with 146 in the preceding month.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds and Hides and skins advanced by 6 points each and Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles by 3 points each but Metals and Cotton manufactures recorded decreases of 1 and 5 points respectively. The non-food index advanced by one point to 150.

The sub-joined table compares September 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1925*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Aug 1926	+ or − % compared with Sept 1925
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 1	+ 5
2. Pulses ..	2	− 2	+25
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 7	− 2
4. Other food ..	3	+ 1	−16
All food ..	15	+ 2	+ 1
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 4	+ 3
6. Raw cotton ..	5	..	−19
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 3	−16
8. Other textiles.	2	+ 2	−14
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 5	− 5
10. Metals ..	5	− 1	− 5
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 2	− 5
All non-food ..	29	+ 1	− 9
General Index No...	44	+ 1	− 5

Groups	Sept 1925	Dec 1925	Mar 1926	June 1926	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
1. Cereals ..	96	100	99	101	99	101
2. Pulses ..	97	114	109	120	124	121
3. Sugar ..	96	90	88	92	88	95
4. Other food ..	91	87	78	76	75	76
All food ..	94	96	93	94	94	95
5. Oilseeds ..	99	93	92	103	97	101
6. Raw cotton ..	97	84	76	75	79	79
7. Cotton manufactures ..	99	92	90	88	86	84
8. Other textiles.	101	96	94	85	84	86
9. Hides & skins.	97	102	101	99	88	92
10. Metals ..	97	96	96	95	94	93
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	98	97	93	94	96
All non-food ..	98	94	92	90	89	90
General Index No.	96	94	92	92	91	91

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 200.

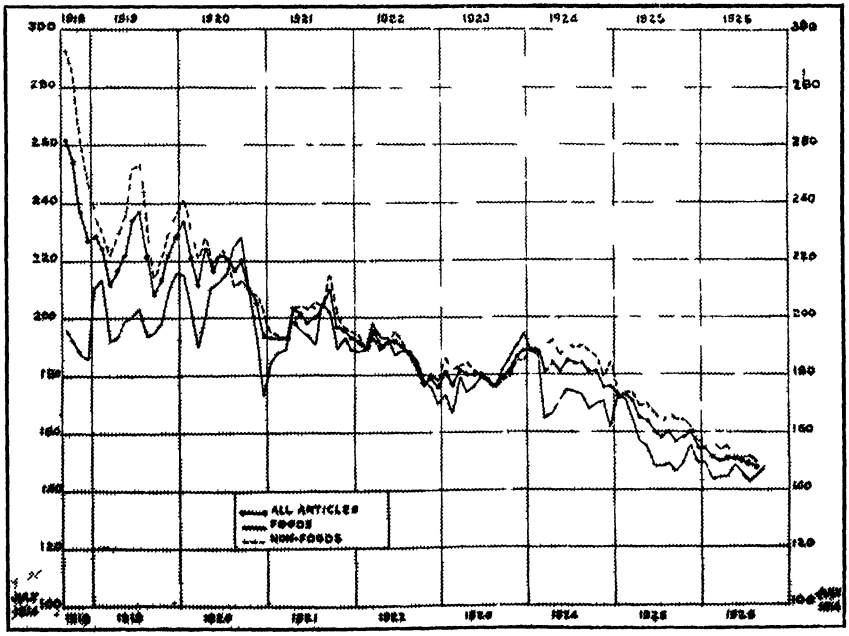
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
,, ,, 1919	202	233	222
,, ,, 1920	206	219	216
,, ,, 1921 .. .	193	201	199
, ,, 1922	186	187	187
, ,, 1923	179	182	181
,, ,, 1924 ..	173	188	182
,, ,, 1925	155	167	163
Nine-monthly ,, 1926	146	153	150

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

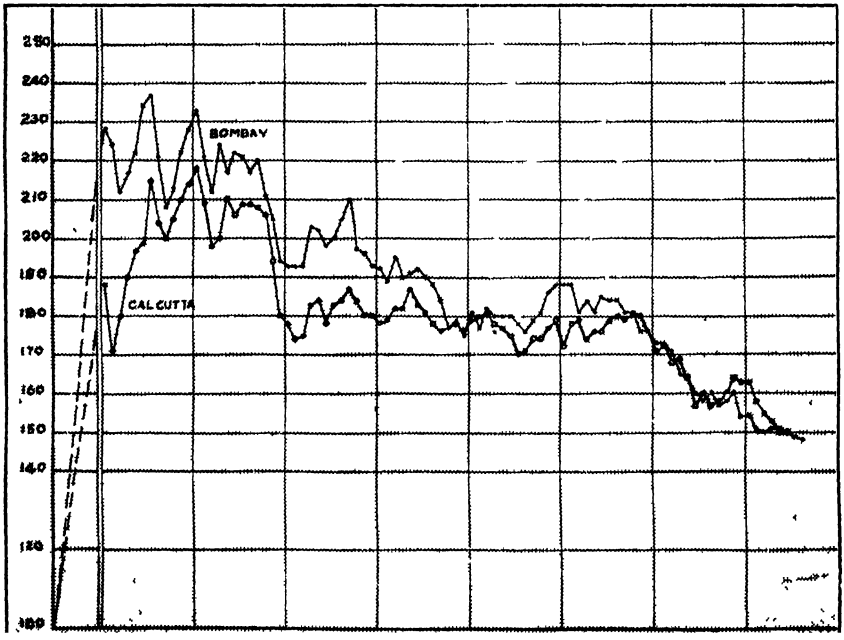


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

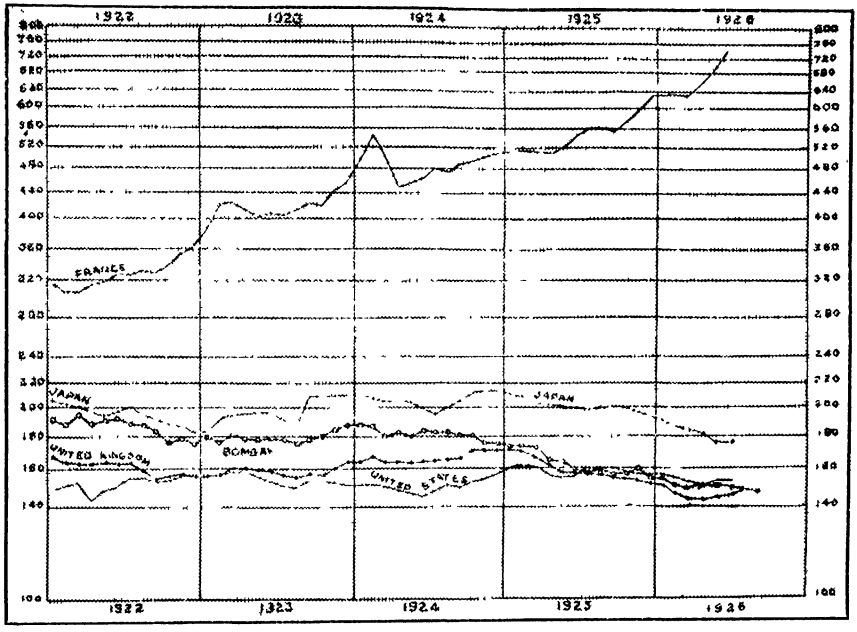
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 and 1924 and during 1925 the two curves temporarily crossed. Since the middle of 1925 prices in Bombay have been lower than in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " The Statist."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 14 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times* and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Aug. 1926	Sept. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Sept. 1926 over or below	
							July 1914	Aug. 1926
				As. p	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill .	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2	
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 9	7 7	+ 1 9	— 0 2
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 7	5 7	+ 1 4	
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 5	6 10	+ 2 3	+ 0 5
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	5 11	6 2	+ 1 10	+ 0 3
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 0	8 1	+ 2 2	+ 0 1
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer	28	1 1	1 11	2 0	+ 0 11	+ 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	,,	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 2	15 1	+ 7 3	— 0 1
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+ 1 2	...
Beef ..		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	
Mutton ..		,,	39	3 0	5 4	5 4	+ 2 4	
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	...
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,,	28	7 1	13 8	13 2	+ 6 1	— 0 6
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,,	28	0 8	1 1	1 0	+ 0 4	— 0 1
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,,	28	0 3	0 8	0 9	+ 0 6	+ 0 1
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,,	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5	

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are for actual transactions and are carefully collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during September 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains the price of bajri rose by 5 pies per paylee, turdal and gram recorded a rise of 1 and 3 pies respectively whilst wheat fell by 2 pies per paylee. Rice and jowari showed no change. Among other food articles, sugar (refined) advanced by 1 pie per seer but the price of gul remained the same. Tea was cheaper by 1 pie per lb. and ghee by 6 pies per seer. There was a rise of 1 pie in onions but potatoes registered a fall of 1 pie per seer. The other articles remained practically unchanged during the month.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 200 per cent. above their prewar level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent. and gul, salt and beef by more than 60 per cent. whilst the rise in the prices of food-grains is between 30 and 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in August and September 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in August and September 1926 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in August 1926 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in September 1926 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	118	118	106	116	Rice ..	100	118	118	112	116
Wheat ..	100	81	96	89	105	Wheat ..	100	82	98	91	108
Jowari ..	100	83	94	60	92	Jowari ..	100	84	94	62	96
Bajri ..	100	108	108	78	97	Bajri ..	100	104	102	75	95
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	98	104	83	103	Cereals ..	100	97	103	85	101
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	89	93	87	88	Gram ..	100	84	89	88	88
Turdal ..	100	102	127	97	113	Turdal ..	100	102	126	93	112
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	96	110	92	101	Pulses ..	100	93	108	91	100
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	85	97	102	109	Sugar (refined) ..	100	83	93	93	91
Jagri (Gul).	100	81	93	70	71	Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	74
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	125	Tea ..	100	103	103	118	109
Salt ..	100	60	69	108	86	Salt ..	100	75	69	105	86
Beef ..	100	109	69	57	69	Beef ..	100	103	69	57	69
Mutton ..	100	99	92	92	101	Mutton ..	100	92	92	92	101
Milk ..	100	43	63	76	76	Milk ..	100	47	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	79	73	73	86	Ghee ..	100	82	76	76	90
Potatoes ..	100	129	115	207	124	Potatoes ..	100	79	112	112	103
Onions ..	100	57	65	70	70	Onions ..	100	58	57	62	60
Cocoa nut oil.	100	93	112	112	98	Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	85	86	99	92	Other articles of food ..	100	81	85	88	87
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**89**	**93**	**94**	**96**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**86**	**92**	**88**	**92**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles declined at all the four mofussil centres there being a drop of 3 points at Karachi, 1 point at Ahmedabad, 6 points at Sholapur and 4 points at Poona. Referring back to September 1925 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles was steady at Poona and decreased by 5 points at Karachi, by 4 points at Ahmedabad and by 7 points at Sholapur.

Of individual articles the relative prices of rice recorded a rise at Sholapur. The relative prices of wheat and ghee were higher and of bajri, sugar (refined) and potatoes lower at all the four mofussil centres. Jowari was steady at Ahmedabad but advanced at the remaining centres. Turdal and onions decreased except at Karachi. Tea decreased at Poona and mutton and cocoanut oil at Karachi whilst all three were steady at the other three centres. Salt showed a rise at Karachi, was stationary at Ahmedabad and Poona but was cheaper at Sholapur.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1926

Abbreviations:— S = *Scanty.* F = *Fair.* N = *Normal.* E = *Excess.*

Rainfall Division	June					July				August				September					October			
	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th
I. Bombay Presidency																						
1 Sind — River	N	F	S	S	F	F	S	F	F	F	N	N	E	E	E	E						
1 Sind — Rainfall	N	N	S	S	S	S	S	N	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	E	S	N	N	N	N	
2 Gujarat	S	S	S	S	N	E	E	E	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	N	F	S	S	
3 Deccan	S	F	S	F	E	E	E	S	N	N	E	E	S	F	S	E	S	N	S	S	S	
4 Konkan	S	S	N	N	N	E	F	S	N	E	E	F	F	E	S	N	E	F	N	S	S	
II. Madras Presidency																						
1 Malabar	S	F	E	F	E	E	N	S	E	E	E	F	F	F	E	E	F	E	E	F		
2 Deccan	S	N	S	S	E	F	N	F	E	F	S	F	N	F	N	E	F	F	S	N	F	
3 Coast North	S	S	S	F	F	E	E	N	N	F	E	F	F	E	F	N	N	E	E	S	F	
4 South East	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F	F	F	S	S	N	N	E	N	E	S	F	N	E	
III. Mysore	F	F	S	F	E	E	N	S	E	E	E	S	S	S	E	E	S	S	F	E	N	
IV. Hyderabad																						
1 North	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	E	S	E	S	F	F	F	S	S	S	
2 South	S	S	S	F	F	N	E	F	F	E	E	F	S	F	S	E	F	F	S	N	S	
V. Central Provinces																						
1 Berar	S	S	S	S	N	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	F	N	S	F	F	S	E	F	S	
2 West	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	S	N	S	E	F	E	E	N	F	E	F	E	E	S	
3 East	S	N	S	S	F	N	E	F	S	F	E	E	E	E	N	E	E	F	E	S	S	
VI. Central India																						
1 West	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	S	N	S	E	S	E	E	E	F	N	F	S	S	S	
2 East	S	N	S	S	S	F	N	S	E	S	N	N	N	E	E	N	E	F	E	N	S	
VII. Bengal Presidency	N	F	F	F	F	N	F	E	N	E	F	E	F	E	E	S	N	S	E	N	S	
VIII. Assam	F	F	E	N	E	E	E	E	N	E	N	F	F	N	F	S	F	F	N	E	F	
IX. Bihar & Orissa																						
1 Bihar	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	E	S	N	F	E	E	F	F	E	F	S	S	
2 Orissa	F	F	S	F	S	E	E	N	E	N	N	E	N	E	E	F	E	F	E	F	S	
3 Chota Nagpur	S	S	S	F	S	E	N	F	E	E	N	E	N	E	E	N	E	N	N	F	S	
X. United Provinces																						
1 East	S	S	S	F	S	F	F	E	E	E	N	F	F	F	N	F	E	E	F	F	S	
2 West	S	S	S	N	S	S	E	N	E	E	F	E	F	N	N	N	N	F	F	S	S	
XI. Punjab																						
1 East & North	S	S	S	F	S	S	E	N	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	F	F	S	S	S	
2 South West	N	N	S	E	F	S	E	E	S	S	F	E	S	E	F	S	E	E	S	N	N	
XII. Northwest Frontier	S	S	S	E	S	S	E	S	S	S	N	N	E	S	E	E	S	S	S	N	N	
XIII. Rajputana																						
1 West	S	N	S	S	S	F	E	E	S	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	S	S	S	S	S	
2 East	F	S	S	S	S	F	E	F	E	F	E	E	E	E	E	F	E	S	S	S	S	
XIV. Burma																						
1 Lower	N	N	E	E	N	E	N	N	N	N	N	E	N	N	F	F	E	N	E	F	E	
2 Upper	N	F	N	N	N	F	S	E	E	F	N	F	F	E	E	F	E	F	E	E	E	

NOTES—

"Normal" in the chart is a variation from 80 to 120 % of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120 % of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80 %; and "Scanty" below 40 %. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding Hill Stations.

The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in September .. 3 Workpeople involved .. 3778

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during September 1926, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in September 1926.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in September 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Sept 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Sept 1926
	Started before 1st Sept	Started in Sept	Total		
Textile		3	3	3,778	3,558
Transport					
Engineering					
Metal					
Miscellaneous					
Total ..		3	3	3,778	3,558

During the month under review the number of disputes was three all of which occurred in cotton mills in Ahmedabad. The number of workpeople involved in all these three disputes was 3778 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 3558.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results May to September 1926

—	May 1926	June 1926	July 1926	August 1926	Sept 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	4	9	4	7	3
Disputes in progress at beginning ..		2*	2		
Fresh disputes begun ..	4	7	2	7	3
Disputes ended ..	4	7	4	7	3
Disputes in progress at end..		2			
Number of workpeople involved ..	3,149	1,281	384	6,900	3,778
Aggregate duration in working days ..	7,733	1,752	661	22,457	3,558
Demands—					
Pay ..	2	3	2	4	2
Bonus ..					
Personal ..	1	4	1	2	1
Leave and hours .	...				
Others ..	1	2	1	1	
Results—					
In favour of employees.					
Compromised ..				1	
In favour of employers..	4	7	4	6	3

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

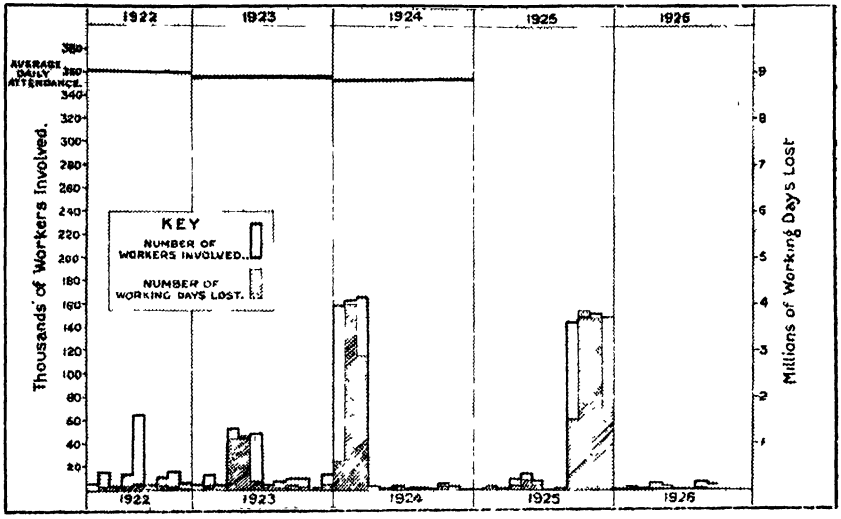
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
October 1925	5	3,904 182	100	..	..
November „	6	3,699,628	100	..	..
December „	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February „	5	5,817	75	25	..
March „	9	3,161	67	22	11
April „	3	13,088	67	33	..
May „	4	7,733	100	..	..
June „	9	1,752	100	..	..
July „	4	661	100	..	..
August „	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „	3	3,5?8	100	..	..
Summary for the above twelve months.	54	9,461,840	86	10	4

* Revised figures.

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

There were only three industrial disputes in progress during the month of September 1926. All of them occurred in cotton mills in Ahmedabad during the latter half of the month. The number of workers directly affected by the disputes amounted to 1124 while 2654 were affected indirectly. There was an aggregate loss of 3558 working days to the industry. Two of the disputes arose over questions of pay and allowances and the third was due to a personal grievance. The strikers were unsuccessful in all three cases.

AHMEDABAD

The weavers of the Motilal Hirabhai Spinning and Weaving mills requested the management of the mills on the 10th September to fix their wages at the same rates as those prevailing in the other mills. As the management had not made any announcement by the 16th September 350 weavers struck work immediately after the recess on that day. The weaving master then put up a notice informing the men that they would be re-employed and their demands, if reasonable, considered provided they returned to work before 3 p.m.. Those who did not resume work then would be paid off on the next day and might or might not be re-employed. On the 18th, 100 new hands were engaged and 50 strikers resumed work unconditionally. The rest were paid off and their services were dispensed with. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

On the 16th September, 25 spinners of the throstle department in the Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Mill struck work in the afternoon

complaining that they were being paid at the rates for small bobbins while work was actually done on big ones. They also complained that their wages suffered because the thread broke oftener on the bigger bobbins. On the afternoon of the 18th, 674 more spinners struck work in sympathy. Mr. Khandubhai K. Desai, the assistant secretary of the Labour Union, advised the strikers to resume work and, together with some 15 workers discussed the matter with the mill authorities who promised to look into their grievances. The strikers, however, insisted on a written statement. The manager then put up a notice informing the workers that they would be fined Rs. 2 each if they did not resume work the next day. In view of the fact that altogether 699 workers had joined the strike by the 19th, the whole mill was closed in the afternoon. Another notice was then put up informing the strikers that their wages would be paid off and that they would be dismissed if they did not return to work on the 20th. On the morning of the 20th, 40 more workers joined the strikers who resolved to remain out until their grievances were redressed. In the afternoon, however, all the strikers resumed work unconditionally and also consented to pay a fine of Rs. 2 each if ordered to do so.

The third dispute arose in the Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Mills and lasted for only 24 hours. Forty workers in the throstle department struck work on the 24th in sympathy with a dismissed jobber. Fifteen new hands were employed the same morning and 25 strikers resumed work on the next day.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

1. ACCIDENTS

The monthly Statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of September in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidedcy. During the month of September there were in all 226 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which 2 were fatal, 25 serious and the rest minor. Of the total, 66 or 29 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 160 or 71 per cent. to " other causes." The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 72 in workshops; 27·5 in textile mills and ·5 in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 49 accidents all of which occurred in Cotton mills. Of these 32 or 65 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 17 or 35 per cent. to " other causes." One of these accidents was fatal, three were serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all 9 accidents, 6 of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust workshops, 2 in Engineering workshops and one in miscellaneous concerns.

In the " other centres " of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 46 out of which 15 occurred in textile mills, 26 in workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Of the total number of accidents 18 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 28 to other causes. Of these 7 were serious and the rest minor.

There were no prosecutions during the month under review.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and of Proceedings during September 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

The present article contains the Summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of September 1926. All Commissioners except two furnished information and out of a total of 33 cases disposed of during the month 32 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It should be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 10,768-5-0 was awarded as Compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 14,218-5-0 awarded during the previous month and Rs. 20,294-8-0 two months ago. Out of the 33 accidents for which Compensation was paid, six were fatal, four of permanent total disablement, 22 of permanent partial disablement and one of temporary disablement. The number of Compensation cases was 16 in textile mills and 17 in other industries. The corresponding figures for the month of August are 18 and 15. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation in all the cases were males over 15 years of age. Of the 33 cases disposed of during the month under review, 13 were original claims and 20 registration of agreements. One case of original claim was transferred to a District Commissioner. Compensation was awarded in eight cases and 20 agreements were registered. Simple distribution was effected in two cases and the other two were dismissed.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th October 1926 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

" The position regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at this moment in the various divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—The position in this division, which was one of considerable anxiety at the time of the last report, owing to the excessive and continuous rains, has now appreciably improved owing to the break in rains since about the end of September. The standing crops are now doing well

generally and the prospects of the *rabi* (late) crops seem to be quite hopeful.

Konkan.—Conditions in this divison continue generally satisfactory. The standing crops both irrigated and unirrigated are showing a healthy development. The harvesting of the early crops has been started in places.

Deccan.—In the North and West of the division, conditions are generally satisfactory and the crops are proceeding well. In the East, however, more rain is needed in many places for the young *rabi* crops to develop and also for completion of the *rabi* sowings.

Karnatak.—The situation in the West of the Division is quite well. In the East, however, comprising the Northeast of the Dharwar District, a large part of the Bijapur District and some portion especially the Athni Taluka and the surrounding area in the Belgaum District, the situation is getting anxious owing to absence or deficiency of rains and if rain does not occur soon the situation is likely to be aggravated."

Employment Situation in September 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 129 or 87·16 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of September 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 129 returns amounted to 10 99 per cent. in September as against 9·75 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City all the 80 mills which were working in September furnished returns. Supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 12·66 per cent. in September as compared with 11·06 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 57 mills were working during the month of September. Information was supplied by 38 or 66·67 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 3 14 per cent. in September as against 2 87 per cent. in August. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

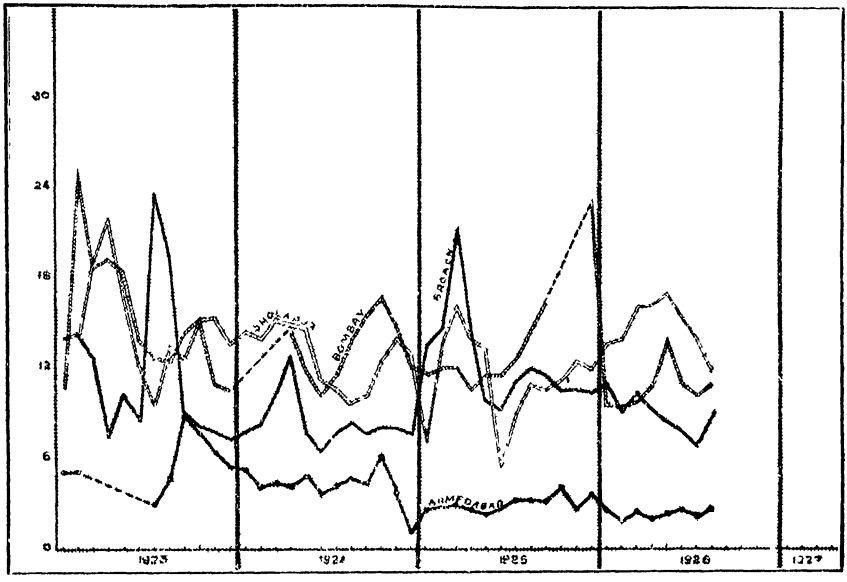
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 1·18 per cent.

Returns were submitted by all the six mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 12 77.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 9 27 per cent. during the month under review as against 9·22 per cent. in the previous month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the cotton mill industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering workshops increased from 11 91 per cent. in August to 13·70 per cent. in the month under review. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 21 59 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust, both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 9·20 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during September 1926.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union have just published their Fourth Annual Report for the year 1925-1926 which states that during the year under report the Union has been able to carry out all the objects for which the Union was formed to the satisfaction of its members.

Owing to general trade depression a considerable number of employees were retrenched in all departments of the Bombay Port Trust, but in spite of this, the number of members of the Union showed a satisfactory increase. The total number of employees in the Port Trust Workshop is stated to be 5)7 and the total number of members on the membership

rolls of the Union whose subscriptions were regularly paid was 401. Many of the workers are temporary, and these do not join the Union.

The Managing Committee held eleven meetings in the course of the year under review. Among the matters dealt with were:—

"1. Complaints regarding non-payment of wages during sickness.

"2. Complaints regarding non-payment of compensation for accidents.

"3. Retrenchment in the staff without any regard to period of service.

"4. Reduction in the number of Indian appointments to superior jobs.

"5. Affixing proper Notices in different languages on the Notice Boards of the shops for the better guidance of the men.

"6. Compulsory leave to workmen or alternative terms and others.

"7. Discharge on account of Insolvency order of High Court."

The Union also made representation to the authorities on the question of time scales of pay pointing out that men started as apprentices on twelve annas a day even when they become efficient do not get anything more than Rs. 1-12-0 at the most up to the end of their service.

On receipt of this representation the Chairman of the Port Trust asked the Union to submit definite scales of pay. The rates asked for were as follows:—

		Rs.	Rs.
Turners	from	69 to	110
Fitters	,,	69 ,,	110
Blacksmiths	,,	69 ,,	110
Boiler Makers	,,	65 ,,	100
Pattern Makers	,,	69 ,,	110
Carpenters	,,	65 ,,	100
Painters	,,	45 ,,	86
Moulders	,,	60 ,,	95
Coppersmiths	,,	65 ,,	100

Special Grade Workmen from Rs. 110 to 125 (with ten posts in turning shop, ten posts in blacksmiths' shop, ten posts in boiler, eight posts in patternmakers' shop, four posts in carpenters' shop, two posts in moulding shop, two posts in coppersmiths' shop).

		Rs.	Rs.
Cooly	from	30 to	50
Mistries	,,	125 ,,	175
Chargemen	,,	175 ,,	250

Indian Assistant Foremen from Rs. 250 to Rs. 400.

The whole question is under the consideration of the authorities and the Union hopes that it will soon be settled to the satisfaction of the employees.

The Managing Committee also submitted a representation to the Port Trust authorities asking that adequate provision should be made for housing employees.

The Port Trust authorities replied that the Trustees are only able to provide for such of their workmen as it is desirable to house in the neighbourhood of their work, owing to its nature, or so as to render them available for emergency duty. Certain of the workshop employees are so housed at present. For the majority of those employed in the workshops it is not necessary to reside in its vicinity, and financial stringency as well as the difficulty of finding sites for chawls prevent the Trustees from housing all their employees. The matter will, however, receive the attention of the Trustees.

The income of the union during the year amounted to Rs. 2,039-0-11, out of which Rs. 1,281-12-0 were realised by way of subscription.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union

REPRESENTATION TO GOVERNMENT

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union has submitted a memorial to Government requesting them to revise the scale of salaries paid to postmen. It is pointed out that while the starting salary of postal clerks has been raised from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per month, that of postmen has remained the same since 1920. Moreover postmen are required to be literate at least in three languages and are also burdened with pecuniary responsibilities. In spite of this, however, they are paid much less than bailiffs, bill-collectors and in some cases, bank peons. The Union has laid before Government the following propositions for their consideration :—

(1) that the postmen's duties are of a far more skilled character than those of the ordinary skilled millhand and involving in addition pecuniary responsibilities which the millhand has not to bear ;

(2) that the plea advanced for the *status quo*, namely, that recruits are available on present scales of pay is by no means valid in as much as it has not been advanced against the revision of clerks' salaries though as a matter of fact qualified candidates for clerks' posts are easily available on Rs. 50 per month or even less ;

(3) that the scale of salaries enforced for the postmen compare quite unfavourably with those of the employees who, in point of duties and responsibilies, can be compared with them ;

(4) that if the relative position and the salaries of postmen and postal clerks in about the year 1900 is compared with the relative position as it exists to-day the postman is found to be decidedly worse off than he was in 1900 as regards his pay and prospects ; and

(5) that it is a great injustice to the postman not to have revised his scale of salary along with that of clerks.

Finally the Union has requested Government to undertake immediately the revision of the scales of salaries of postmen in Bombay, but if Government find it impossible to do so only on the strength of the Union's representation, the Union suggests the appointment of a local Enquiry Committee with adequate representation of postmen and packers.

Report of the Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab, for the year 1925-26

The Board is divided into two sections, rural and urban. The report mainly deals with the activities of the former.

RURAL SECTION

During the year under review, this Section made steady progress. With a view to making village economic surveys, four investigators were appointed on the 1st January 1925 and were posted to villages in the Amritsar, Multan, Rawalpindi and Rohtak districts respectively. When it was seen that funds would permit two further inquiries were instituted in April 1925 in the Jullunder and Lyallpur districts. In anticipation of a further grant from Government, three more village inquiries were instituted on the 15th June 1925 in the Hissar, Sialkot and Dera Ghazi Khan districts. Two of these inquiries are making satisfactory progress while the third one was abandoned. Each one of these investigations is in charge of a responsible person. The Board is thus at present conducting eight inquiries and it is proposed to start eight more during the current year. If the work continues at this rate, the Board expects to produce one report on at least one village in every district of the Province.

One of the greatest difficulties experienced by the Board is of getting suitable investigators.

In addition to village surveys, several other inquiries were conducted by the Board. These were: (1) mortgage inquiries; (2) agricultural indebtedness inquiry; (3) Kangra inquiry and (4) miscellaneous inquiries.

Mortgage Inquiries

With the idea of securing reliable data on the amount of mortgage debt, an inquiry was conducted during the year in a Sikh tract in the Ferozepur district, and the results of this inquiry have now been published. Two similar inquiries were sanctioned during the year, one in the Rawalpindi and another in a dissimilar tract in the Ferozepur district. The first of these is now drawing to a close, and the results will be published during the present year. The latter inquiry has been postponed. The Board hopes to start one or two more such inquiries during the present year.

Agricultural Indebtedness Inquiry

The investigators in charge of village surveys were asked to collect additional information on the amount of indebtedness in their village, and particularly to supply information as to the amount of debt outstanding to agricultural and non-agricultural moneylenders respectively. One month was devoted to this work by each investigator. The survey was of much too limited a nature to admit of anything in the nature of general conclusions being drawn, but investigation along the same lines is now to form part of each village survey.

Kangra Inquiry

This is a very comprehensive survey of economic conditions in an area of the Kangra district. It is expected to publish the results of the inquiry during the present year.

Miscellaneous Inquiries

Besides supervising the above inquiries, some members of the Board did during the year a certain amount of honorary work and presented their results to the Board. For instance, Mr. Calvert conducted through district officers an inquiry into cultivators' holdings in the Province and Mr. Stewart conducted an inquiry into the expenses of cultivation under the Batai system in a village near Lyallpur.

Finance

In the beginning the work of the Board was greatly hampered by the lack of funds, and it was not until the year under review that the grant received from Government was sufficient to warrant the initiation of comprehensive schemes of investigation. During the year under review, the rural section received a Government grant of Rs. 23,000 in all. The Board tries to keep down the overhead charges to the minimum. All work done by members of the Board is honorary, and no payment other than travelling expenses is made to them for any services rendered. The work of organization is in the hands of the secretary. It appears, however, that the investigators are fully paid officers.

URBAN SECTION

The principal inquiry undertaken by this section during the year was one into the cost of education in the Attock district. Forms were drawn up in English and vernacular and the scope of the inquiry was limited to school children. The data is now being tabulated. The Board proposes to conduct three more inquiries during the present year. These are: (1) An Inquiry into the Housing Conditions in the more crowded parts of Lahore City: (2) An Inquiry into the Printing Trade in Lahore and (3) An Inquiry into the Unemployment amongst Graduates of the Province.

Labour in Ceylon

STANDARD WAGE FOR INDIAN EMIGRANTS

A comprehensive statement has been issued by the Education Department tracing the history of the negotiations with the Ceylon Government on the standard wage for Indian labourers in the colony, and announcing the decisions arrived at between the two Governments.

It was in October 1922 that the Ceylon Government were asked to institute an inquiry into the question of fixing a basic wage in accordance with the conditions on which the emigration of Indian labour to Ceylon was allowed. The Colonial Government appointed Mr. Jones Bateman, Assistant Director of Statistics, to conduct this inquiry, but his conclusions

did not satisfy the Government of India. The Ceylon Government then at the suggestion of the Indian Government appointed a committee of inquiry, whose report was forwarded to the Government of India in April 1925.

The committee accepted the principle of a standard wage and, assuming that an adult male or female labourer worked for twenty-four days and a working child for twenty days a month, suggested payment in low-country, middle-country and up-country respectively, of the following wage: For men 50, 52 and 54 cents; for women 40, 41 and 43 cents; for working children 30, 31 and 32 cents.

The Government of India, in consultation with the Standing Emigration Committee, urged an addition of 10 per cent. to the committee's scale to provide for a margin for sickness, etc. The Ceylon Government thereupon deputed Mr. Reid, Controller of Indian Immigrant Labour, to discuss the situation at Delhi. Mr. Reid claimed that a margin of 10 per cent. was provided for in the committee's scale in the difference between standard wages and actual cost of living, exclusive of dependents, and made the following further concession for non-working dependents, namely, the issue of one-eighth of a bushel of rice free every month to each working man and the same quantity of rice to each widow with a non-working child. These free issues are to be made irrespective of whether they worked the minimum number of days per month or not.

The Government of India accepted these proposals subject to the understanding that any revision in a standard wage would not take place until after six months' notification of such proposal within which period the two Governments could negotiate. The new arrangement is expected to take effect from 1st January 1927.

The Ceylon Government have also accepted a number of other subsidiary proposals regarding the payment of wages within a reasonable time, maternity benefits, improvement of medical and housing arrangements, educational facilities and legal provision regarding the issue of rice to Indian estate labourers. (*From "Statesman," Calcutta, October 2, 1926.*)

Industrial Fatigue Research

WORK OF BRITISH BOARD

Investigations in the Textile Industry

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board, which is a section of the Medical Research Council, carries out enquiries of a scientific nature with the object of promoting better knowledge of the relations of hours of labour and of other conditions of employment, including methods of work, to functions of the human body, having regard both to the preservation of health among the workers and to industrial efficiency. The Board also takes steps to secure the co-operation of industries in the fullest practical application of the results of this research work to the needs of industry. The sixth annual report of the Board has just been published by His Majesty's Stationery Office and contains much information of value both

to capital and to labour, for it gives the results of investigations into hours of labour, rest pauses, the effects of different systems of employment, atmospheric conditions, etc. Some of these enquiries are of particular interest to the cotton mill industry.

An investigation as to the relative sickness amongst weavers in sheds that are artificially humidified and in sheds that are not, is now being carried out by Dr. A. B. Hill under the direction of a special Committee, composed of representatives of the Statistical Committee and the Departmental Committee on Humidity.

Facilities for investigation have been obtained in 127 sheds situated in Blackburn, a town with only humid sheds; Nelson, a town with only dry sheds; and Accrington, Burnley and Preston, towns containing both dry and humid sheds. Thus each type of town is represented. The weavers employed in these sheds on 1st August 1925 numbered approximately 20,500 (9,500 were in dry and 11,000 in humid sheds).

Investigation is proceeding on the following lines:—

(1) For each weaver a card, giving certain particulars as to name, age, and Approved Society has been filled in by the employer concerned.

(2) In order to allow for unequal "exposure to risk" on the part of weavers ceasing work during the year of inquiry, the employers concerned have been asked to furnish quarterly lists of "exits" containing the name of each weaver concerned, the cypher number of his Approved Society, and the date of exit.

(3) At the expiry of twelve months (1st August 1925 to 31st July 1926), these cards will be placed in the hands of the appropriate Approved Societies, who have consented to supply, in respect of each weaver, the sickness experienced during the year of the inquiry.

With these data it is hoped to find evidence as to the existence or absence of any significant difference between the two classes of sheds in respect of the amount and nature of the sickness experienced.

In addition, arrangements have been made for the keeping of special hygrometer records during six months in both types of shed. With the help of these further data, an attempt will be made to analyse the sickness returns in relation to actual shed conditions in greater detail than the broad distinction between humid and dry sheds allows.

The Board have also collaborated in an investigation on possible methods of alleviating the discomfort arising during the hot months of the year from the artificial humidification of cotton weaving sheds. The experiment consisted in comparing the conditions in two parts of the weaving sheds, one of which was fitted with specially installed electric fans. The Report on the investigation indicates not only that the operatives enjoy the increased air movement during hot weather, but also that improvement in the physiological conditions is accompanied by a small but genuine increase in output.

The Estimation of Industrial Fatigue

The Report gives an account of an investigation into this subject. Cotton weaving was taken as the process to be investigated. This was

based chiefly on hourly records of output taken on a large number of looms for a period of one year. By arrangement with the employers concerned the looms were devoted throughout the investigation to the weaving of a standard cloth of uniform quality, thus approximating to constancy from the manufacturing point of view; further, the hours of employment during the experiment were normal and uniform.

Various conclusions were come to by the investigators such as that output is nearly always low both on Monday and at the end of the working week. The output is controlled by two opposing factors (*a*) increased efficiency, due to practice, which causes a rise in output, and (*b*) fatigue effects, which accummulate during the course of the week and tend to bring about a gradual fall in output. There is an increase of output during the weeks preceding the annual holidays culminating in a marked spurt in the second week before work ceases. There are also indications of a similar but smaller spurt before the shorter Easter and Whitsuntide holiday.

The effects of short time were also investigated in one weaving shed in which, owing to trade depression, work was limited to four days a week (Tuesday to Friday). The average hourly output during the short-time period was 370 units compared with 394 during full time under similar atmospheric conditions, a reduction of a little more than 6 per cent. An analysis of the daily output curves shows that this loss resulted not only from the lower level of the output curves generally, but also from the progressive decrease in output as the week advanced. On the significance of these results, Dr. Wyatt, the investigator, remarks :—

> " The decreased working capacity of the operatives may be partly due to the disturbing effects of short time, which interferes with their usual habits and desires, but it may also represent a restriction of output caused by knowledge of the limited amount of work available, and a consequent attempt to postpone the advent of further unemployment. The fear of unemployment is always an obstacle to efficiency, and unless it can be entirely removed, maximum efficiency will never be attained."

Influence of Humidity on Fatigue

The influence of humidity and temperature on fatigue is clearly indicated in several of the Board's investigations into the textile industries. The report gives a table showing the results obtained by continuous observation of the number of loom stoppages and warp breakages between different temperature ranges and comparing these with the actual output. Both the stoppages and breakages diminish as the temperature rises with humidity constant, and *vice versa* owing to the favourable physical effect on the yarn, yet the output drops in the first case above a temperature of 75 degrees and in the second case above a relative humidity of 82·5. This implies that a longer time is unconsciously taken to deal with each stoppage or breakage owing to the adverse effects of higher temperatures and humidities on working capacity. The influence of lighting on production has also been studied and one investigator

concluded that under artificial illumination production falls, even if electric light of sufficient intensity is provided, and that the magnitude of this fall is of the order of 10 per cent. of the daylight value of the rate of output. Another observer in the textile industry concludes that the average loss of efficiency attributable to the effects of artificial light is of the order of 11 per cent.

Rather remarkable results were obtained as the result of an investigation into " Motion Study ", *i.e.*, an analysis of the workers' movements with the object of eliminating such as are wasteful or otherwise undesirable, and of adapting the performance of the work to the workers' natural rhythm. The two processes in a confectionery factory sweet dipping and chocolate covering were studied.

Sweet dipping (which is a completely manual process carried out by girls), consists in dipping a " centre " (an almond, walnut, etc.) in a basin of melted sugar with the left hand, covering it with the sugar by working it with a fork held in the right hand, and placing the finished article on the tray. On being photographed, the paths travelled over by the hands of several workers were found in most cases to assume roughly the form of straight lines, and to involve several reversals of direction. A method of doing the work was then introduced, in which the hand moved entirely in curves instead of in straight lines, the frequent changes of direction being thus avoided and the maximum momentum being utilised for the most tiring part of the work. The advantage of the new method was indicated by the fact that it had been unconsciously adopted in modified form by three of the most proficient workers in the factory. It was found impossible to induce the older workers to change their habits and to adopt the new method, but for the younger members of the department a training class was instituted and after a short course of instruction the output increased by 27 per cent.

More striking results were obtained in another room where the process was about to be started, and after three months work the workers were on the average producing 88 per cent. more than workers of the same standing, who were adopting the old method in the original room. This difference in output may, however, have been partly due to the better conditions in the new room.

Another investigation dealt with the operations involved in bobbin winding in the silk weaving industry. A number of weavers were closely observed, and the time required to attend to each stoppage (with the method adopted) was entered on a special form containing all possible causes of stoppages. From an analysis of these data, it was possible to show precisely in what respect a good weaver differs from a poor one, and so to indicate the more important personal factors in good weaving. The method of replacing " the pirns " in the shuttle, for instance, and the proper distribution of attention over the two looms were found to be important influences in proficiency.

A further point brought out in this investigation is the proof that an inefficient worker actually uses more energy for a given task than an efficient one. In each case the number of stoppages, that is the number of calls on the weaver's energies, is greater for the good weaver, whilst, the

time taken to deal with them (which may be taken as a rough measure of the energy expended), is very much less.

The relation of the posture of the operator to the position of his machine has also been investigated. Photographs are given in the report of two types of frames used in bobbin winding. One of these parts is the ring-yarn box which contains the tubes from which the yarn is wound on to the bobbin. In one type of frame the ring box was only 14½ inches from the floor, whereas in the other it was 20 inches from the floor. The disadvantage of the former is shown as being particularly uncomfortable for a short operative.

The report can be obtained from His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, at a cost of three shillings.

Report of the Ministry of Labour for the year 1925

The Minister of Labour has issued the second Annual Report* on the work of the Ministry dealing with the year 1925.

Industrial Relations (Conciliation and Arbitration).—During the year under review 257 disputes were settled with the assistance of the Ministry, as compared with 252 in 1924. Of these, 165 (including 101 in the railway service) were referred to the Industrial Court for arbitration, 8 were referred to single arbitrators, 8 to *ad hoc* Boards of Arbitration, and 9 were settled under the Conciliation Act, 1896; while in 64 cases agreement was reached with the assistance of officers of the Ministry. In three cases Courts of Inquiry were appointed under Part II of the Industrial Courts Act, to deal with disputes in connection with (*i*) steel houses, (*ii*) the coal-mining industry and (*iii*) railway shopmen on the London and North Eastern Railway (Great Central section) and on the Cheshire lines. A summary of the proceedings of these Courts of Inquiry so far as they fell within the year 1925, is given in the Report; also of the proceedings of two Courts of Investigation (consisting in each case of an independent chairman, appointed by the Minister, together with representatives of outside interests), which dealt with wages in the wool textile industry and in the Scottish shale oil industry, respectively.

Employment.—The number on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month from January 1922 to December 1925 (inclusive) has never fallen below a million, and has varied from a maximum of 1,936,081 in January 1922, to a minimum of 1,039,444 in June 1924. In thirty-four months out of this period of four years it was between 1,100,000 and 1,400,000, including a consecutive period of seventeen months from August 1924 to December 1925.

It is pointed out in the Report that the personnel of the unemployed is constantly changing. There is a wide range in the spells of unemployment during which registration is maintained, varying from those of the skilled building trade operative, for example—whose name may appear on the register only for an hour or two—through the variety of intermittent periods of work inherent in such occupations as dock labourers and seamen, and the well-defined times of slack employment in seasonal trades,

*Cmd. 2736. H. M. Stationery Office; price. 3*s.* net.

to the long and continous idleness which during these years has been endemic in certain industries and in the areas where those industries are chiefly placed. Industrially as well as socially, the term unemployment covers many differences of circumstances, and a simple generalisation from aggregate figures may involve a complex distortion of fact. Thus, registers of 5000 at a London Exchange and at an Exchange in a coal valley differ in many respects. The London register will cover a variety of trades and industries; its personnel changes, and the turnover, or rate of change is rapid. It will include a number who remain on the register for considerable periods, but the majority will be registered for short, though perhaps frequent, spells; despite the size of the register there may be appreciable trade activity in the area. In the coal valley, on the other hand, a register of this figure will consist almost entirely of colliery workers. It may rise from 50 or 60 to 5000 over the week-end, if two or three pits stop work. The personnel changes little, and the excess may disappear with equal suddenness. But if it remains it means that the whole economic life of the district is out of gear.

The total number of registrations in 1925 in Great Britain (including re-registrations of the same persons) was 12,728,238, as compared with 11,262,887 in 1924, 8,774,644 in 1923, and 8,819,523 in 1922. Of the registrations in 1925, 8,815,666 were men, 2,952,214 women, and 960,358 juveniles (under 18 years of age); the corresponding figures for 1924 were 7,526,355 men, 2,823,405 women, and 913,127 juveniles.

The trade groups in which the largest number of registrations of *men* were recorded during the last four years were :—engineering; building; transport; general labourers; shipbuilding; mining and quarrying; metal manufacture; cotton. The above is the order in which these various groups were affected in 1922; the order did not greatly differ in the other years, except that mining and quarrying rose to the second place in 1924 and to the first place in 1925. The corresponding groups for *women* were cotton; domestic service; dress; miscellaneous textiles commercial; food, tobacco, drink, etc.; woollen; paper, printing, etc.; engineering; transport; pottery, glass, etc. In each year the greatest number of registrations was in the cotton trade; next in magnitude comes domestic service, followed by dress in 1922, 1923 and 1924, and by woollen in 1925.

The following Table shows the numbers of vacancies notified and vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges in each of the last four years :—

	Vacancies notified	Vacancies filled
1922	839,633	697,036
1923	1,056,970	893,713
1924	1,345,394	1,143,742
1925	1,480,820	1,279,292

The vacancies notified have been distributed between men, women and juveniles in the following proportions (taking the average of the last four years) :—men, 54 per cent.; women, 28 per cent.; and juveniles, 18 per cent. The corresponding percentages for vacancies filled are men, 58; women, 24; juveniles, 18.

Another section of the Report deals with the national scheme for the employment of disabled ex-service men (the King's National Roll). Employers who give an undertaking to employ a stated percentage of disabled ex-service men (normally five per cent.) have their names entered on the Roll. The number of special local committees assisting in administering this scheme is now 253. The Minister of Labour announced in October 1925, that the Government proposed to ask Parliament to pass a resolution restricting Government contracts to firms on the Roll. This practice is also adopted by 544 local authorities.

Other subjects dealt with under the heading of employment include local employment committees; port labour; juvenile employment; oversea employment; duties under the Aliens Order, 1920, etc.

Unemployment Insurance.—The Report refers to the changes introduced by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1925, and to changes in the Unemployment Insurance Acts consequential on the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act 1925. The terms upon which compliance with the first statutory condition for the receipt of benefit (which requires the payment of 30 contributions within the last two or three years) might be waived were revised during the year; a special investigation into the administration of unemployment benefit was initiated; and Lord Blanesburgh's Committee on Unemployment Insurance was set up. The rest of the chapter deals with the central and local administration of unemployment insurance under the headings of *contributions* (rates of contribution; amounts of contribution from employers, from workpeople, and from the State; method of collecting contributions, and enforcement of payment; issue and exchange of unemployment books; repayments at age 60, and compensatory payments in lieu thereof, etc.); the determination of *questions of insurability*; *benefit* (rates, periods, and conditions; waiting period; extended benefit; determination of claims; prosecution of fraudulent claimants; payment of benefit through associations, etc.); *special schemes* (in the banking and insurance industries); *cost of administration; finance of the scheme, etc.*

An appendix to this chapter gives the substance of certain specially important decisions of the Umpire, dealing with the trade dispute disqualification; with the questions whether applicants are "genuinely seeking work," or are "unable to obtain suitable employment," and with the application of Section 1 (4) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924. Another appendix gives a summary of the general information obtained from special investigations.

Trade Boards.—The Report refers to the investigation made into the light refreshment and dining-room section of the catering trade, the meat distributive trade, the drapery and allied distributive trades, and the grocery trades, the results of which have since been published. The descriptions of certain trades were altered during the year; and a new Trade Board was established—the Drift Nets Mending Trade Board (Great Britain)—consequent upon the amendment of the Rope, Twine and Net Order, 1919. Two separate Trade Boards, for England and Wales and for Scotland, respectively, have been established in the retail

bespoke tailoring trade, in place of the one Board which previously covered the whole of Great Britain. Other sections of this chapter deal with Trade Board minimum rates, with the proceedings of Trade Boards, and with inspection and enforcement (including special inquiries).

Labour Statistics.—Statistics are given in the Report dealing with industrial disputes, employment exchanges, unemployment, changes in rates of wages, changes in cost of living, membership of trade unions, the work of Trade Boards, and various other subjects.

International Labour Division.—The Report mentions the leading events in the history of the International Labour Office during the year. There were five meetings of the Governing Body, and one session of the International Labour Conference; also an international conference of labour statisticians. The Report also states the present position as regards the ratification and acceptance of certain Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Conference.

Training of the Unemployed.—The Report refers to the courses of training for young unemployed men at Birmingham, Wallsend, Claydon (near Ipswich), and Brandon (Suffolk), which were opened at various dates between October 1925, and February 1926. The Report observes:—

"It is, of course, still too early to say how far this experimental scheme of training will achieve its objects, but the results obtained by the end of the year were encouraging. By 31st December 1925, over 550 men had already entered training at the Birmingham centre, more than 150 who started the course on 20th October having already left in order to take up employment. The improvement in the morale and the general bearing of the men undergoing training has been most marked. They have taken most readily, indeed enthusiastically, to their work, and the regular hours and discipline, with the new hope of employment which the training opens up, have changed their outlook on life. There was no difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of men likely to respond to the facilities offered to them and to give value for the money expended upon them."

The Report also gives an account of the proceedings during the year of the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment.

(*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September, 1926.*)

Technical Education

A travelling manual training school has just been completed in the Ipswich workshops (Great Britain) to the order of the Department of Public Instruction, Queensland. This car is built in conformity with the principle established by the building of domestic science travelling schools and is intended to provide technical training in subjects such as woodwork, sheet metal-work and leather-work in outlying districts where tuition of this nature is at present unobtainable.

The training school comprises a specially built forty-foot car, fitted with backboards, work-benches, vices, forge (with blower) and anvil, material storage facilities, tool-lockers and cupboards for the complete equipment necessary to each trade.

It is intended that this vehicle will stay at each centre for about five weeks in order that classes of boys may be given a reasonable amount of tuition and instruction. It is proposed that the car should be accompanied by one of the travelling domestic science schools, and by temporarily suspending all other teaching in the fifth class of the local school during the time the travelling school is located at the railway station boys and girls of that standard will receive full-time vocational instruction covering what would normally be one year's work in the State school classes conducted at technical colleges. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 13, 1926.*)

Employment in Lancashire

Employment was still bad, and worse than a year ago; but there was some improvement in August in most districts as compared with the previous month, partly owing to an increase in the available supplies of foreign coal, and partly to the further adaptation of plant to the use of oil fuel. In the American spinning section the mills as a rule were still only working alternate weeks or the equivalent, and in some cases even less; in the Egyptian spinning section the operatives were fairly well employed. In the weaving section the depression continued to be severe, and there were extensive stoppages during the month. The local trade holidays were prolonged by many firms.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23·5 on the 23rd August, as compared with 28·2 on the 26th July 1926, and with 13·2 on the 24th August 1925.

In the Oldham, Ashton, Stockport and Stalybridge districts employment with spinners continued bad, and was much worse than a year ago; firms stopped for a week at a time, and in some cases for longer periods, partly owing to bad trade and partly to shortage of coal. There was, however, some decline in the number unemployed as compared with July. In the weaving departments in the Oldham district employment was also bad, and worse than a year ago.

At Bolton there was some improvement in the spinning section, though stoppages owing to the coal shortage were still prevalent; in the weaving section employment remained bad. At Leigh employment was described as good with spinners; at Chorley it was fair. At Bury a temporary improvement in the spinning section was reported; at Rochdale employment continued bad.

In all the principal weaving centres employment continued very depressed. At Burnley employment continued very bad; a large number

of mills were closed down pending the settlement of the coal dispute, and others were working alternate weeks.

At Blackburn the shortage and high price of fuel produced an exceptional amount of intermittent employment; but there was some decline in unemployment as compared with a month earlier. At Accrington a number of firms were closed down through fuel shortage; there was also, as for some time past, under-employment at a number of mills. At Darwen the partial solution of the fuel difficulties resulted in a considerable reduction in the number of unemployed; but alternate weeks were still being worked at several mills, and six mills were still closed down at the end of the month. At Nelson there was little change as compared with the previous month; much under-employment was still reported, weavers working two or three looms instead of four. At Preston the position, apart from the fuel shortage, was unsatisfactory, though there was an increase in the number of mills at work at the end of the month. At Todmorden, most of the weavers were working very irregularly, from one to three days a week. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.*)

Ministry of Health's Report

The annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health for the year 1925 is, on the whole, an encouraging document. Sir George Newman, it is true, does not mince matters. We still need as a nation "fuller production and an enlarged and healthier life." He does not deal, of course, in detail with the first need, but he says, truly enough, "to possess potential physical capacity is one thing; to be willing, or to have the desire, to use it to productive ends is another. A nation cannot be efficient unless it both possesses and uses this capacity." All that might be done is not yet done to secure physical capacity. Apart altogether from terrible diseases such as cancer and tuberculosis, there is much preventable loss. It is saddening to think that with a falling birth-rate no fewer than 10,000 children died in 1925 from measles and whooping cough, maladies in which mortality is preventable; that in the same year maternal mortality was higher than the average of the previous decade, that "general invalidity and physical incapacity cost us among insured persons only the equivalent of twelve months' work of half a million people." In other words neglect, and largely neglect among young children, has in the year been more harmful than the direct effects of the prolonged coal strike. To what extent these appalling losses are due to negligence of local sanitary authorities it is not possible to estimate, but that there is such negligence in some cases Sir George Newman makes clear. He pleads for knowledge, co-operation, thorough inspection, and prompt and wise administration. Local authorities throughout the country will lay this advice to heart. Those attributes are already characteristic of many authorities. Sir George Newman urges the universal need of them. For instance, he points out that where maternity and

infant welfare centres are efficiently and comprehensively conducted, " the effect on the infant mortality and on child welfare generally has been astonishing." He goes on to declare that " an authority which does not provide for the protection of maternity and infancy in its area is directly negligent of its duty."

The chief medical officer takes the point that the five principal groups of disease are the " end-results of the reaction of the human body to the process of disease set up at an earlier stage." By sound nutrition and healthy living the body can be fortified against infection. A direct deduction from this principle is that the process of fortification must be begun early. Preventive medicine must play a direct part in school and pre-school life. One of the most cheering features of the report is that the low level of infant mortality in 1925 implies a better physical condition in children from one to five years of age " and a more enlightened understanding of personal and public hygiene." The school medical service preaches the doctrine of preventive medicine on all sides, but there is great variation still in the attitude of local authorities to the sermons preached. The weak point of our national health system is the neglect of the health of boys and girls after school life is ended. This particular aspect of the national health problem is not specially dealt with in this report, but there cannot be any doubt that much of the " general invalidity and physical incapacity " that is playing havoc with industrial efficiency has root in this neglect of juvenile life. It would be unsound to lay much stress on the fact that the number of deaths between the ages of fifteen and nineteen slightly increased in the year 1925, but the fact is not without significance. Yet the main wastage is impaired general health which leads to disaster in the battle of adult life.

The report, however, is one that inspires new hope. There has come into existence what Sir George Newman calls " a communal impulse for health." It stands for the triumph of the human spirit over preventable evils, and it is a force thrusting forward the whole community to new achievements. The chief medical officer lays great stress on the steady growth of the Insurance Medical Service in efficiency and in public utility and estimation, and on the wider social understanding of national health. The great health services are giving men and women the power to enjoy a new sense of security and health of life, and there is a steady development in the social consciousness of the value and significance of personal and national health. The truth is that preventive medicine is closely allied to a moral force in social life. Preventive medicine is impossible without co-operation, without the realization of the bonds that knit together all classes of the community. It is Christianity in action. To preventive medicine the slum, the slum mind, and the slum-owner are all equally intolerable. Good environment, good habits, social unselfishness are both the means and the goal of preventive medicine. In the great movement which has as its aim national, moral and physical health the school and the school teacher must play, and indeed are playing, a great part. (*From "Times Educational Supplement," London, September 11, 1926.*)

The British Trades Union Congress

The fifty-eighth annual Trades Union Congress was held at Bournemouth on 6th September 1926 under the Presidency of Mr. A. Pugh, Chairman of the General Council.

The number of delegates appointed to attend the Congress was 697; the number of organisations affiliated to the Congress (including those organisations, with a membership of about 100,000, which did not appoint delegates) was 174 with a membership of approximately 4,365,000.

The proceedings of the Congress opened with the address of the President after which the General Council's Report was discussed. There was little discussion on the sections of the Report dealt with on the first day, but resolutions were adopted, (*i*) calling upon the Government to extend the principle of Unemployment Insurance to the agricultural industry, and (*ii*) protesting against workers in one occupation being prevented from following other occupations, and in particular condemning "the attempts being made to keep farmworkers on the land by refusing them employment in sugar beet factories, and the indirect encouragement which is being given to these attempts by the Ministry of Labour." A composite resolution was also passed calling upon the Government to amend the Workmen's Compensation.

A resolution demanding that there should be no differentiation between the rates of unemployment insurance benefit paid to single men and to single women was lost.

The principal discussions of the second day were concerned with (*i*) Trade Union Organization; (*ii*) Education and (*iii*) the Emergency Powers Act. Two resolutions were also passed, the first urging upon parents and guardians the importance of exerting their influence to induce young people of their own families to join a trade union as soon as eligible and the second protesting against the decision of the Minister of Labour to abolish the Grocery and Provision Trade Boards and not to establish Trade Boards in the meat distributive, catering and drapery and allied trades.

On the third day a long discussion took place upon the section of the General Council's Report dealing with industrial disputes. On the fourth day a motion to refer back the Report of the General Council on account of the inadequacy of a paragraph relating to the mining situation and the National Strike was defeated by a very large majority.

A resolution calling upon Government to institute an International Convention for the purpose of fixing an international minimum wage standard as a necessary corollary to the forty-eight hours' convention, and, pending such convention, to prohibit the importation of goods produced abroad under unsatisfactory conditions, was lost. An emergency resolution was passed expressing appreciation of national and international financial assistance given to the unions.

Consideration of the Report of the General Council was completed on the fifth day. An emergency resolution was adopted on the right of the Civil Service Organisations to affiliate with outside industrial and political

bodies. Another emergency resolution protested against the Guardians Default Act, 1926.

The proceedings of the Congress on the sixth day included the adoption of an emergency resolution concerning the action of the British and the Japanese Governments in China.

The election of the General Council resulted in the return of all the old members, with two exceptions. Mr. W. M. Citrine, the Acting Secretary, was unanimously elected general secretary. (*Abstracted from the "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.*)

Hours of Work in Belgium

On 28th July last the Belgian Senate adopted the Bill for the unconditional ratification of the Washington Hours Convention. An analysis will be found below of the important debate which took place in the Senate during the discussion of this Bill. The debate was the result of considerable preparatory work, and it may be well, therefore, to give a detailed summary of the report, submitted on behalf of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Senate, by Mr. Lafontaine, on the subject of the Bill.

The report recalls the fact that a long discussion of the Bill took place in the Senate, dealing mainly with the question of the position of inferiority in which Belgian industries would be placed *vis-a-vis* Belgium's industrial competitors in the event of the ratification of the Convention.

Mr. Lafontaine's report endeavours to allay this fear by means of statistics showing that the Belgian Act 14th June 1921 on the Eight Hour Day has in no way reduced the industrial production of the country. This may be seen from the following figures showing the production of various essential Belgian industries in comparison with 1913 (1913=100).

	1921	1922	1923	1924
Coal	95·4	90·9	100·3	102·3
Coke	39·6	80·8	118·7	118·0
Pig-iron	35·1	64·9	88·0	113·0
Crude steel	29·9	63·7	93·1	115·5
Finished steel	45·0	72·4	95·2	128 0
Sheet glass	43·5	80·8	87·1	98·3
Mirror glass	61·4	106·7	159·3	137·6
Raw sugar	107·7	115·5	119·2	153·5
Refined sugar	94·5	141·0	118·9	116·7
Cotton	68·2	84·6	92·2	96·6

From these figures Mr. Lafontaine deduces that Belgian workers have shown their capability of adapting themselves to more intensive and rapid methods of production. He takes the view that it is for the chiefs of industry in the country to supply their workers with an equipment which will increase their average production and reduce cost prices. This is the policy which he recommends as an immediate necessity in order to produce a large quantity of reliable goods quickly and cheaply.

Mr. Lafontaine also emphasises the importance of the Conference of the Labour Ministers of Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy which met in London in March last. He thinks that his meeting should be considered as an honourable undertaking entered into by the States represented at London not to delay the ratification of the Convention. In his view Belgium in honouring this undertaking, is doing no more than her duty and so setting the great industrial countries an example of loyalty and confidence which cannot but elevate her in that well-merited esteem in which she is already held in international public opinion.

Mr. Lafontaine also recalls the fact that the authors of Part XIII of the Treaty of Versailles have already recognised the fact that " the well-being, physical, moral and intellectual of industrial wage-earners is of supreme international importance " and adds that, from the practical point of view, the aim to be pursued is " to ensure every man a decent living, with work which does not exhaust him, and also such spare time as will allow him to devote himself to his family and give both him and his family access in some degree to the higher regions of art and culture."

The Foreign Affairs Committee pronounced unanimously, with the exception of one vote, in favour of the Bill adopted by the Chamber.

It was on the basis of the above report that the Senate had to take a decision.

In the course of the debate Mr. Wauters observed that at the moment of the Ruhr occupation the German authorities had imagined a nine and ten hour day to be a solution of all ills. Now, however, there were in Germany 2,000,000 unemployed. In Great Britain also, where the normal working week was not 48 hours, but often 44 and 45 hours, there had been for the last four or five years about 1½ million unemployed. In these circumstances it was very difficult to draw conclusions against the eight hour day from the standpoint of general economic development. Moreover, all those who had studied the question closely and those who had conducted impartial investigations in different countries had come to the conclusion that the reduction of working hours was a factor in economic progress. If there were certain industries which were merely struggling along or which were not giving such favourable terms as others, the real cause, said Mr. Wauters, was that they had not yet made any real attempts at organisation. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 13, 1926.*)

Unemployment Among Young People

DECLINE OF APPRENTICESHIP

The Bristol Advisory Committee for Juvenile Employment, in presenting their annual report for 1925, which has just been published by H.M. Stationery Office, express serious concern at the long continued depression in trade and the consequent deterioration, through the lack of suitable employment, of young people.

Although matters seem to be slowly improving, they state that a problem of juvenile unemployment of formidable proportions still faces them. During the year over 10,000 applications for employment were received, and throughout the year the number of juveniles on the current register was between 600 and 800. Increased use of the Exchange was made both by employers and employed, and no fewer than 2,877 vacancies were filled during the year.

The slackness in the skilled trades and the decline of apprenticeship, and the fact that, even of those who had been fortunate to secure employment, a very large number were worthy of better and more promising posts, are features of the situation, described as disquieting. The prolonged depression in the engineering, furnishing, and other skilled trades and the increased tendency towards mass production on the American plan make the prospects in these trades very dubious for even a skilled man, and consequently there seems to be a growing feeling of distrust towards apprenticeship even when available, coupled with a serious dearth of apprenticeships for those willing to undertake them.

The question of oversea settlement has received the Committee's constant attention, the report states. No effort has been spared to bring the particulars of the schemes before boys registered at the Exchange and their parents. In most cases, however, the parents have a natural reluctance to allow their sons to go so far from home, and, on the whole, it cannot be said that any large number either of boys or their parents find the idea of oversea settlement attractive.

With regard to co-operation with public and secondary schools, the Committee refer to the difficulty of placing young people from good schools and state that it is extremely discouraging to parents who have perhaps sacrificed themselves in order to give their boy or girl a good education to find that there is no demand for the children's services. The fact remains that there are not sufficient good posts to absorb the young people leaving these schools, and it is extremely difficult to suggest any opening which can really give scope for their training and abilities. (*From "Times Educational Supplement," London, August 28, 1926.*)

Unemployment Insurance in Australia

NATIONAL SCHEME RECOMMENDED BY ROYAL COMMISSION

Establishment of an unemployment council for the Commonwealth, and a system of insurance against unemployment, are recommended in the second progress report of the Royal Commission on National Insurance.

The Commission states that, although it is not possible to obtain exact figures as to the volume and incidence of unemployment, sufficient evidence is available to indicate that unemployment is a prevalent factor at certain periods of the year. Secondary industries dependent to some extent on finance are subject to considerable unemployment; some are subject to the vagaries of industry and financial weather. Of the iron, steel and engineering industry it is said that, notwithstanding the measure of

protection provided, there is a fairly large percentage of unemployment. Fluctuations in industry would be considerably reduced if the monetary and banking system were so arranged as to lessen oscillations in the cost of living. Considerable areas of productive land were not yet used, or only put to limited use. On the other hand, agriculture was becoming less and less an avenue of employment because of the increasing use of machinery. A smaller number of men is required to produce the necessaries of life than formerly.

While the percentage of population engaged in the industrial group remained almost stationary from 1891 to 1921, the value of manufacturing production increased from £127,000,000 in 1921 to £132,000,000 in 1923-24. An abundance of raw materials now exported could be advanced several stages toward the finalised article here, especially in the woollen industry. More than three-quarters the value of the wool clip is paid away for imports of apparel, textiles and manufactured fibres alone. Owing to the importation of timber, which has been cut and milled by cheap foreign labour, the local mills in many cases have been unable successfully to compete against the imported article. From 1920 to 1924 (inclusive) it is estimated that 7,796,760 working days and £6,285,574 in wages were lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in industrial disputes in Australia. Under the Queensland unemployment insurance scheme, each insured employee contributes 3*d.* a week, the employer 3*d.*, and the Government 3*d.* Of the total of 150,000 contributors, about 25,000 draw sustenance in one year. The fund at 30th June 1925 had an accumulated surplus of £168,962. The Act only claims to relieve distress without recourse to charity.

It should be possible, the report states, to regulate public works so that the heaviest demand for labour would be made in winter; a reserve of 10 per cent. on average annual construction expenditure would tend to level out fluctuations. Industries which provide seasonal employment should be organised and co-ordinated. For the co-ordination of employment agencies, to aid in the transfer of labour according to demand, Government control was desirable. It was essential that facilities for technical training and apprenticeship should be considerably extended.

A summary of the recommendations is as follows:—

(*a*) That an Unemployment Council, comprising representatives appointed by the Government, the employers' organisations, and the trade unions, be constituted—To establish and supervise a national system of employment bureaux throughout Australia; to regulate and supervise the existing private labour exchanges; to collect, tabulate, and analyse detailed statistical data as to the supply of, and demand for, employment in the various industries, throughout the year; to conduct special inquiries as to the incidence and causation of unemployment in the various industries; to co-operate with private employers, Government departments, and local authorities in an endeavour to provide avenues of employment and to regulate the demand for labour; to co-operate with the education departments in an endeavour to institute an effective and extensive system of technical training; to

co-operate with the immigration departments with respect to the employment of immigrants; and to regularly furnish detailed information as to the trend of employment.

(*b*) That a system of insurance against unemployment be instituted to meet those risks which are found to be unavoidable, and where assistance to necessitous cases is warranted.

The Commonwealth Statistician, it is reported by the Commission, has estimated that, on the basis of an average rate of 7 per cent. unemployment in Australia, the following rates of contribution would provide for the payment of unemployment benefit to insured members on the assumption that (*a*) the benefit started from the commencement of unemployment; (*b*) the right to benefit commenced at the date of insurance; (*c*) benefits were payable irrespective of the duration of unemployment:—

Unemployment benefit per week	Weekly contribution required when benefit is supplemented by child allowance of—	
	4*s.* per week	5*s.* per week
	s d.	*s d.*
20*s.*	1 10	1 11
30*s.*	2 7	2 8
40*s.*	3 4	3 5

(*From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 2, 1926.*)

Italy's Economic Position

Of the regulations recently promulgated by the Italian Government for the purpose of increasing production and reducing the cost of manufactured goods, the most important is the one which abolishes the eight-hour day. Other regulations forbid the opening of new bars, cafés, taverns, tearooms, and cabarets. Until 30th June 1927, no new buildings may be commenced except public works, industrial and agricultural constructions, and houses for manual and middle class workers. Wine producers must supply to distilleries fixed quantities of wine for the extraction of alcohol. From 1st November next all petrol used for automobiles must be mixed with alcohol in a proportion to be fixed later. Daily newspapers must not consist of more than six pages. This is intended to restrict the imports of wood pulp, which have become formidable on account of the demands of the artificial silk trade. The idea of using alcohol extracted from the surplus wine production in order to reduce the consumption of petrol is obviously adapted to a country which produces a great deal of wine and no mineral oil. The regulation as to working hours means that overtime rates of pay will commence after nine hours have been worked instead of eight. Employers are free to avail themselves of this privilege or not, as they choose. (*From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 9, 1926.*)

Co-operation and Competition

Mr. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, in his address before the Fourteenth meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce made the following remarks:

"There is a marked change during this last twenty-five years in the attitude of employers and employees towards wages and conditions of labour, especially in the larger units of production and service and the larger trade unions. It is not so many years ago that the employer considered it was in his interest to use the opportunities of unemployment and immigration to lower wages irrespective of other considerations.

"The lowest wages and longest hours were then conceived as the means to attain lowest production costs and largest profits. Nor is it many years ago that our labour unions considered that the maximum of jobs and the greatest security in a job were to be attained by restricting individual effort.

"But we are a long way on the road to new conceptions. The very essence of great production is high wages and low prices. It depends upon a widening range of consumption from high real wages and increasing standards of living. To-day the majority of employers in times of desperation exhaust every device to make ends meet before resorting to wage reduction.

"They turn to labour-saving machinery to constant research for better processes and better administrative methods. In turn, the pressure of high wages is forcing labour-saving devices and better administration to an extent which oft-times reduces labour costs per unit of production below even those of the cheaper labour abroad.

"There is no more profound proof of labour-saving than the fact we to-day use roughly 55,000,000 horsepower in industry where we used 13,000,000 a quarter of a century ago, and even that omits the increase in power for transportation. Nor are these labour-saving methods developing harder conditions of labour, for the hours of labour have been steadily lessened.

"Parallel with this conception there has been an equal revolution in the views of labour.

"No one will doubt that labour has always accepted the dictum of the high wage; but labour has only gradually come to the view that unrestricted individual effort, driving of machinery to its utmost, and elimination of every waste in production are the only secure foundations upon which a high real wage can be builded, because the greater the production the greater will be the quantity to divide.

"Our original trade unions sprang from the Old World labour movement and naturally adopted its conceptions. But the demonstration of the enormous distance which our organised labour has travelled from the tenets of the Old World needs no further proof than the new vision of wages crystallised by the American Federation of Labour at its last annual meeting. The background of those proposals is an urge for improved methods, elimination of waste, increase of production, and participation by labour in the resulting gains.

" The acceptance of these ideas is obviously not universal. Not all employers, not all businesses, have these conceptions, nor has every union abandoned the fallacy of restricted individual effort as the basis of service. But the tendency for both employer and employee to think in terms of the mutual interest of increased production has gained greatly in strength.

" It is a long cry from the conceptions of the old economics. And it has all contributed profoundly to improvement in the whole basis of employer and employee relationship over a large area of industry, and to the constant growth of national efficiency.

" Another marked tendency of the last twenty-five years is the notable growth of a higher sense of co-operation in the whole community. It is true enough to say that the modern system of fine division of labour and specialisation in business is in essence co-operation itself; it is, however, unconscious co-operation. What I refer to is conscious co-operation.

" It is true also that a quarter of a century ago we were adept enough in combination for abuse in control of price and of production. But we have gradually evolved a co-operation that is of positive public service."

The central theme of the Fourteenth meeting was that private business should work out its own problems and raise its own ethical standards with a minimum of government interference and regulation. The closer co-operation between business needs and different countries was deemed essential for future peace and prosperity. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 6, 1926.*)

Labour Conditions in Australia in 1925

COST OF LIVING AND WAGES—MANY INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

From the Commonwealth Statistician's Office the annual Labour Report for 1925 has been issued. The arrangement of the various sections has been altered somewhat, but the principal details are given on similar lines to those adopted in previous issues. The matter has been divided into four main chapters, covering information on prices, wages, employment and associations respectively. This arrangement will facilitate ready comparison of cognate matters. Thus all information dealing with comparisons of price levels is now gathered together in the one chapter instead of, as in the earlier issues, being given in various separated parts of the report.

Wholesale prices decreased during 1925 by 2·2 per cent. but retail prices increased by 3·1 per cent.

The cost of housing accommodation increased by 2 per cent., the combined increase of food, groceries, and housing accommodation being 2·7 per cent. The average cost of food, groceries, and rent of houses having five rooms was 4·9 per cent. greater in November 1925 than in November 1924.

Operations under Arbitration and Wages Boards Acts in the year resulted in the making of 320 awards or determinations. In addition, 182 agreements were arrived at by parties and later registered in the courts.

At the end of 1925 there were 1181 awards or determinations of wage-fixing tribunals, and 607 industrial agreements in force throughout the Commonwealth. Changes in rates of wage brought about by these awards, determinations and agreements in 1925 affected 1,262,209 persons, and resulted in an average increase of 1*s.* 1*d.* per week. The average nominal rate of wage at the end of December 1925 was for males 96*s.* 9*d.* and for females 50*s.* 7*d.* compared with 95*s.* 10*d.* and 50*s.* 2*d.* respectively for 1924.

While wage rates increased in 1925, the cost of food, groceries and housing also increased and at a slightly greater rate, consequently, effective or real wages were lower in 1925 than in 1924. There was a further decrease in the year in the average number of hours constituting a week's work as fixed by awards, etc. The average at the end of 1925 was 46·44 hours compared with 46·66 in 1924 and 48·93 in 1914. An international comparison of wages and cost of food shows that, on the basis therein described, real wages are highest in Philadelphia, followed in the order named by Ottawa, Melbourne, London, Copenhagen.

Industrial disputes to the number of 499 were recorded in 1925, involving directly and indirectly 1,128,570 workpeople, and resulting in an estimated loss in wages of £1,107,544. Interesting figures relating to industrial disputes are given for the years 1921 to 1925 from which the following is extracted :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Number of disputes ..	624	445	274	504	499
Number of Workers involved ..	165,101	116,332	76,321	152,446	176,746
Working days lost ..	1,286,185	858,685	1,145,977	918,646	1,128,570
Loss in Wages ..	£970,475	£751,507	£1,275,506	£917,699	£1,107,544

From the above figures it is seen that over the five years dealt with, there were 2346 industrial disputes in Australia, 686,946 workers were directly or indirectly involved, and lost 5,338,063 working days. As a result of those disputes £5,022,731 was lost in wages alone. Tables are given showing the causes, methods of settlement and result of those industrial disputes. The average percentage of unemployment recorded by trade unions in 1925 was 8·8 compared with 8·9 for the immediately preceding year. While the number of trade unions in the Commonwealth was less in 1925 than in 1924, the membership increased from 729,155 to 795,722 of whom 699,399 were males and 96,323 females. The membership of employers' associations increased from 77,930 in 1924 to 103,350 in 1925. (*From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 16, 1926.*)

Labour Disputes in Sweden, 1905-1924

The Swedish Central Statistical Office has drawn up a report on labour disputes during the twenty-year period 1905-1924.

The total number of stoppages of work due to various causes was 5638 during this period. By far the largest number (5073) were due to strikes ; 223 were due to lockouts, and 342 to disputes of a mixed nature.

During the twenty-year period 1,196,082 workers and 32,339 employers were involved in labour disputes. The total number of working days lost was as high as 54,209,226.

The strikes affected 769,327 workers and 23,904 employers, the lockouts 201,343 workers and 3853 employers, and the mixed disputes 265,384 workers and 4692 employers.

The majority of the disputes during the twenty-year period were due to wage questions, which were the cause of no less than 4118 out of the total. In 488 cases the dispute was due to question of organisation, and in the remaining 1032 cases the causes were classified as unknown.

As regards the results of the disputes, the majority ended in a compromise (2498 cases). The employers' conditions were accepted by the workers in 1393 disputes in all, and the workers' demands were satisfied in 1089 cases. The other disputes during the period were settled in a manner unknown to the authorities. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.*)

Wage Agreements in Germany

In comparison with 1922, the number of wage agreements in Germany has declined considerably. At the end of 1922 there were 10,768 agreements covering 890,237 concerns, and on 1st January 1925, only 7099 agreements, covering 785,945 concerns. At the end of 1922, 14,300,000 workers were covered by wages agreements, while at the end of 1924, the corresponding number was only 13,100,000. The decline in the number of agreements is principally due to (1) concentration in the centres of production ; and (2) the trade slump : the decline in the number of workers covered by wages agreements is due to (1) large discharges of manual and non-manual workers in consequence of the use of labour-saving machinery ; (2) the technical reconstruction of factories ; (3) the dismissal of many non-manual workers who were needed only during the inflation period, etc.

The parties concluding the agreements are, in the case of workers, only associations, while in the case of employers there are single firms as well as organisations. But in general, there has been an increase in the number of agreements covering whole *unions*, so that on 1st January 1925, 86·7 per cent. of the workers coming under wage agreements were under *union* agreements. There has been a corresponding decline in the number of local agreements. Most numerous of all are the district agreements. Of the 11,900,000 workers officially registered on 1st January 1925, 11,660,000 (89·6 per cent.) were working under district or national wage agreements. The apprentice system was regulated in 16·5 per cent. of the wage agreements concluded in 1924. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, September 16, 1926.*)

Employment and Earnings of Men and Women in the United States

From a communication issued by the New York State Department of Labor it would appear that the earnings of men in the New York State factories are about twice as high as those of women. This is the outstanding fact in a study of employment and earnings of men and women in manufacturing industries published, by direction of the Industrial Commissioner, Mr. James A. Hamilton. Women work in different trades and occupations from those of men ; but, taking all places open to women and all those open to men in factories, the average earnings for men in 1924-1925 was 31·36 dollars a week and that for women was 17·45 dollars, or about 56 per cent. of the earnings received by the men.

The report stresses the narrow range of occupations open to women. There are few or no industries, even in the food and sewing groups, where men form less than 20 per cent. of the total number of workers ; but there are many industries where women make up less than one per cent. of all the workers. Over 60 per cent. of all the women in factories are in either the clothing or the textile groups, and the food industries take ten per cent. more. Women are only slightly represented in the important metals group, and very few are at work on wood products or the manufacture of building materials like cement and brick, where employment has been unusually high in the last two years.

The report also emphasises the fact that irregular employment, either for seasonal or any other reasons, generally falls most heavily on women workers. Women are much more likely to feel the effects of seasonal unemployment than men. In the type of seasonal industry where the whole force is subject to irregular employment, as in the sewing trades, women are more likely than men to be unemployed. In other types of seasonal work, such as the sweet factories, where a steady force is maintained throughout the year and extra workers are hired for the busy season, these extra workers are almost entirely women.

Pay-rolls show, even more than employment, the irregularity to which women workers are subject. The difference in earnings between the slack and the busy season is much greater for women than for men.

In the matter of employment women furnish an unexpectedly large proportion of the workers in the irregular or subsidiary industries and in those where the development of highly industrialised organisation has been developed to only a slight degree. They furnish also a large share of the irregular forces in the more highly organised industries.

The study of the individual manufacturing industries, which constitutes the bulk of the report, shows clearly how greatly is the amount of unemployment which continues in good times and bad.

One of the most impressive facts brought out in the whole study is the large reserve of labour necessary to maintain the working force which appears on the pay-rolls of each industry. At all times, whether the volume of employment is increasing or decreasing, currents of labour are moving in both directions. The figures indicate only the net change ;

but beyond that, the employment of a much larger number of people is affected. A few industries are always expanding their sphere of operations, and their demands are an offset to reductions in the volume of employment, but only by providing work for people previously unemployed. In other factories workers are constantly being discharged and help to form that reserve of surplus labour which persists through good times and bad. In this outer circle of the half-employed the proportion of women is relatively greater than that of men. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 20, 1926.*)

Working Hours in Switzerland

FACTORY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

In the reports of the Federal Inspectors of Factories, which have just appeared, it is stated that the week of forty-eight hours has become the custom, but the proprietors and workers recognize that advantage may be taken to a large extent of the permission given by the law to prolong the working period to fifty-two hours when special reasons justify this course. These circumstances certainly exist to-day, when the struggle in the export markets with competing industries of countries having depreciated exchanges has become unequal.

In Switzerland there is some difficulty in establishing uniform conditions of work, because the application of the law is a matter of the Cantons, and there is a considerable difference in the interpretations which the various authorities give. The adoption of the fifty-two-hour week, provided by Article 41 of the Law, was almost equal in the two years 1924-1925, but applications for permits were more numerous in 1925 than in 1924. The improvement in business was partly responsible, and it is unquestionable that the permission given by Article 41 was a very great advantage to industry during the period when, owing to the sudden fall in prices, it was necessary to adjust values to the world level, to take account of the variations in exchange, and to effect quick deliveries. These conditions could not have been realized without an increase in working hours.

Permits have often been asked for a short period with the object of effecting quick delivery. The initial permit is only granted for twenty days at a time; for each renewal a charge must be paid, together with a supplementary wage of 25 per cent. to the workpeople. One fact which deserves notice is the opposition which certain manufacturers or groups of manufacturers are making to the return of a fixed forty-eight-hour week. In the whole of Switzerland there were 2783 extensions of working hours in 1922; 3668 in 1923; 4352 in 1924; and 4150 in 1925. The silk, secondary textile, clothing, machinery, and watch industries were among those which in 1925 extended their working hours compared with 1924. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, September 11, 1926.*)

Labour Conditions in Japan

ENFORCEMENT OF LEGISLATION

The Factory (Amendment) Act, the Minimum Age of Industrial Workers Act, and the Home Department Regulation amending the existing regulations relating to the conditions of work of miners came into force on 1st July 1926.

The two Acts mentioned were originally passed in 1923, and were brought into operation by Imperial Orders, accompanied by Departmental Regulations, promulgated on 7th June 1926.

A summary of the chief provisions of these Acts, Orders and Regulations is given below.

THE NEW FACTORY ACT

Scope

The previous Act applied only to factories in which fifteen or more persons were employed. The new Act applies, in principle, to factories employing ten or more persons.

Exemption was given from the previous Act, by the Order for its enforcement, to certain classes of industry, irrespective of the number of persons employed, provided that no mechanically driven machinery was used. The Imperial Order relating to the new Act removes from this list of exempted industries the following :—

The manufacture of confectionery, glucose (*ame*) and bread.

The manufacture of various kinds of *sake* (rice wine), vinegar, *shoyu* (sauce), and *miso* (soya bean paste).

The manufacture of wearing apparel and *tabi* (socks) and sewing of garments otherwise than by hand.

Under the previous Act, twenty branches of industry are scheduled as being dangerous or unhealthy. The new Act adds forty branches of industry to the list, bringing up to sixty the number of industries which come under the Factory Acts irrespective of the number of persons employed.

It is estimated that, as a result of the extension of the scope of the law in the above-mentioned directions, about 20,000 factories employing about 150,000 workers will come under its operation for the first time.

Women and Young Persons

The previous Act, in principle, gave special protection to women and young persons under 15 years of age, in respect of hours of work, holidays, rest periods, night work, etc. The new Act gives special protection to women and young persons under 16 years of age, but only after an interval of three years from the date of its enforcement.

Hours of Attendance

The previous Act provided that the maximum number of hours of attendance should be twelve a day. The new Act, in principle, reduces this number to eleven, of which one hour is to be a rest period.

The previous Act permitted, by way of exception to this principle, a prolongation of hours of attendance, up to the end of August 1931, in the manufacture of silk yarn by machinery and in the manufacture of silk fabric for export. The new Act adds the cotton spinning industry to these two, and provides that, where no night work is done, the hours of attendance may be extended by one hour to twelve a day (including one hour's rest) in the three industries, until the end of August 1931.

Night work

The previous Act provided that the enforcement of the prohibition of night work of workers under special protection (women and young persons) might be deferred until the end of August 1931. The new Act reduces this period of delay to three years from the date of its coming into force (*i.e.*, to the end of June 1929).

The previous Act defined " night " as from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. The new Act substitutes 5 a.m. for 4 a.m.

Workmen's Compensation

Under the previous Act, the employer was under no obligation to give compensation for injury or disease due to serious fault on the part of the worker. The new Act provides that the employer should be exempt from obligation only if it is recognised by the prefectural governor that the injury or disease actually had its origin in a serious fault of the worker. As regards other forms of compensation—cost of medical treatment, allowances to survivors, funeral expenses, and lump-sum settlements—these must be given regardless of the question whether there was fault on the part of the worker.

The previous Act provides that the payment in case of inability to work owing to injury or disease should be equivalent to one-half of the daily wage during the first three months, and one-third thereafter. The new Act fixes the amount at 60 per cent. of the daily wage for 180 days, and 40 per cent. thereafter.

The scale of compensation in other cases is amended as follows, the figures representing, unless otherwise indicated, the number of days' wages payable :—

Disablement—	Previous Act	New Act
Helplessly maimed for life ..	170	540
Disabled for work for life ..	150	360
Disabled for former work ..	100	180
Other disablement ..	30	40
Compensation to family of deceased worker ..	170	360
Lumpsum settlement ..	170	540
Funeral expenses ..	10 yen	20 days (minimum, 20 yen)

Under the previous Act the only members of a bereaved family entitled to receive compensation for the death of the worker were the legal wife

or husband, the parents, the children, and other legal relatives. The new Act extends the right to the illegitimate wife or husband, who are not legal relatives but " who were supporting themselves from the income of the deceased worker at the time of his or her death," provided that such illegitimate wife or husband shall rank last in the order of those entitled to receive compensation.

Where, in case of injury or disease incurred in the performance of duty, a person receives an allowance under the Health Insurance Act (payments under which will begin in January 1927), no compensation will be payable under the Factory Act.

Notice of Discharge

The new Act provides that, in principle, an employer shall either give 14 days' notice prior to discharging a worker, or pay an indemnity of not less than 14 days' wages in lieu of notice.

Factory Rules

The new Act requires employers, in all factories in which more than 50 persons are employed, to draw up rules relating to conditions of employment for the information of the workers.

Protection of Motherhood

Under the previous Act, the work of a woman is prohibited, in principle, for five weeks after childbirth; provided that she may be employed after three weeks if a doctor agrees. The new Act prohibits, in principle, her employment for six weeks after childbirth, with a proviso that, with a doctor's consent, she may resume work after four weeks.

The new Act provides, for the first time, that a woman may be released from work for four weeks before childbirth at her own request.

A mother nursing her child may be given two rest periods of half an hour each, daily, for the purpose of feeding the child, if she so requests.

Reports of Accidents

The new Act prescribes the form of the report which should be made on accidents, injuries and deaths occurring in factories. Hitherto, the form of the report has been left to the discretion of the prefectural governors, and there has been no uniformity in the matter. The new Act also makes it compulsory on employers to report deaths or injuries involving more than three days' absence from work, and also on all accidents, irrespective of whether they result in injury or death.

MINIMUM AGE ACT

The Act fixing the minimum age for industrial workers, though technically a separate Act, is in effect a part of the new Factory Act.

Under the previous Factory Act, the minimum age for employment in industry was fixed, in principle, at 12 years, but the employment of children over 10 in light and easy work was permitted. The new Act raises the minimum, in principle, to 14 years, but permits as exceptions the employment of children over 12 who have completed the elementary

school course and also the continued employment of children of 12 and over who are already employed.

This Act applies not only to those factories which come under the Factory Acts, but to all factories, mines, engineering works, construction works and other industrial undertakings.

It was estimated that about 500 young workers would be prohibited from employment on the coming into force of this measure.

AMENDED MINES REGULATION

This Regulation is intended primarily to bring the existing mines regulations into conformity with the Acts described above.

Minimum Age

Section V of the previous Regulation, which prohibited the employment of children under 12 in mines, is deleted, in view of the new minimum age fixed in the Minimum Age Act, which applies to mines as well as other industrial undertakings.

Women and Young Persons

The age limit for miners under special protection is raised from 15 years to 16, as from 1st July 1929.

By the previous Regulation, the maximum number of hours of attendance for miners under special protection (women and young persons) was 12, including one hour of rest. The new Regulation reduces this maximum by one hour.

"Night" is defined as the hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. (instead of 4 a.m.).

When a woman or person under 16 is engaged in underground work in a place where the temperature exceeds 30 degrees Centigrade, the aggregate working hours are limited to eight a day. No such person may be employed in underground work where the temperature exceeds 35 degrees.

Protection of Motherhood

Under the previous Regulation, women workers were not protected in any way before childbirth. The new Regulation entitles a woman, on her own demand, to a rest of four weeks before childbirth.

The previous Regulation prohibited the work of women for 5 weeks after childbirth, except in cases where doctors authorised work after 3 weeks. The new Regulation extends these limits to 6 weeks and 4 weeks, respectively.

Provision is made for the first time for facilities for a mother to feed her child during hours of work.

Workmen's Compensation

The new Regulation amends the rates of compensation, extends the list of dependants, and provides for avoidance of duplication of benefit, in the same way as the Factory Act (Amendment) Act.

CONFERENCE OF FACTORY INSPECTORS

At the conference of factory inspectors held in Tokyo from 11th to 16th June to consider various questions arising out of the bringing into operation

of the above legislation, attention was drawn to the need for active measures to protect the health of workers who leave the factories and return to their homes. It was decided that the Bureau of Social Affairs should consult the list, kept in the office of the prefectural factory inspector, of workers discharged before they are fully recovered from illness, and communicate with the local police authorities of the districts to which such workers returned, with a view to enquiry into the condition of health of such workers and their families, and particularly those who are suffering from tuberculosis or beri-beri.

Reference was made to the practice sometimes followed by employers of making advance payments to women workers. It was declared that this practice tended to restrict the freedom of the women, and in some cases produced positive evil effects. For this reason, the opinion was expressed that this practice should be abolished.

Finally, it was suggested that efforts should be made to induce the education authorities to introduce into the text-books used in the primary schools at least one chapter devoted to labour legislation, in order to enlighten the general public on labour matters.

CONFERENCE OF MINES INSPECTORS

A conference of local mines inspectors was held from 15th to 17th June, at the Bureau of Social Affairs, to consider recent new legislation.

In the course of the conference, discussion took place on the question of the prohibition of underground and night work of women mine workers, and the limitation of hours of work underground. A report was made by the Bureau of Social Affairs on its enquiries into the subject, and, after an exchange of views, it was concluded that, although the prohibition of underground and night work of women should ultimately be imposed, Japanese industry was not yet in a position to permit of its immediate enforcement.

It was therefore decided that enquiry should be made into :—

(1) Means of improving methods of work, particularly the feasibility of the introduction of mechanical devices for transporting materials underground, work which is at present done by women ;

(2) The shift system in relation to the night work of women and young persons, and in relation to cost of production—in short, the question whether it would be best to prohibit night work altogether, or to limit hours of work by adopting the three-shift system, in place of the two-shift system ; at present, the night work of women and young persons is, in principle, prohibited except when the two-shift system is worked ; and

(3) Increased use of machinery for sorting coal.

The inspectors also called attention to numerous cases of non-payment of wages at mines, and the Bureau of Social Affairs was urged to take steps to put a stop to this abuse. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 23, 1926.*)

Japan and the Hours Convention

PUBLIC OPINION SOUNDED

The debates on the question of working hours in India and Japan which have taken place at the International Labour Conference during the last two years have had a considerable influence on public opinion in Japan.

It will be recalled that the Japanese Association for International Labour Legislation decided recently to send out a questionnaire in order to sound public opinion as to the expediency of the ratification and enforcement in Japan of the Washington Hours Convention.

The questionnaire was sent out during June to employers' and workers' organisations, Government officials, University professors, publicists, and members of the Association. It dealt with the two following points :—

(1) The probable effect upon Japan of the ratification and enforcement of the Hours Convention ; reasons for or against ratification.

(2) Time and procedure to be adopted for the enforcement.

The covering letter to the questionnaire explained recent developments in connection with the Hours Convention and emphasised the necessity of considering it more seriously in Japan.

On receipt of the questionnaire, important employers' organisations, such as the Japanese Cotton Spinners' Association and the Japanese Industrial Club, began to discuss the question in plenary or committee meetings.

According to newspaper reports, the replies received up to the middle of July show that, generally speaking, workers, scholars, social students and employers in engineering and kindred industries are in favour of the limitation of working hours in accordance with the Convention, while Chambers of Commerce and employers in the textile industries are opposed. It should be noted, however, that many of those who oppose the Convention are unaware that it contains special provisions for Japan.

The reasons given for supporting or opposing ratification be summarised as follows :—

For Ratification

(1) Ratification will rescue the workers from exploitation resulting from international competition.

(2) Ratification will result in the enrichment of the social life of the workers.

(3) The raising of the standard of life of the workers, which ratification will promote, is bound to increase their industrial efficiency and affect favourably the national economy.

(4) Ratification will eventually ensure adequate labour protection in the neighbouring and competing country, China.

Against Ratification

(1) Considering the limited resources and the state of industrial development of Japan, trade competition in the world's markets is possible for Japan only if long hours are worked. It is therefore too soon to adopt even a 9½ hour day.

(2) The shortening of working hours does not increase the workers' efficiency. Japanese workers do not know how to utilise spare time, and they prefer longer hours with higher wages to shorter hours.

(3) Japan will be beaten by China in trade competition so long as China continues to produce under no restrictions, if Japan limits her working hours.

(4) Conditions of labour and industry must vary from one country to another according to the special circumstances of each country. The length of the working day should therefore be left to each country to decide for itself.

The Association for International Labour Legislation will, it is stated, shortly call a meeting of its Commission on General Problems to study the replies received, and will make representations to the Government on the basis of the results of the enquiry. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 20, 1926.*)

The Trade Union Bill in Japan

The Trade Union Bill, which was submitted by the Japanese Government to the 1926 Spring Session of the Diet and which aroused much comment, was finally set aside among a mass of unfinished business. The prime minister, however, Mr. Wakatsuki, and the ministers of Home Affairs and of Communications have recently expressed in public their regret that the Bill did not pass the Diet and have emphasised the urgent necessity of disposing of the question.

In these circumstances, it is believed that the Bill will be re-introduced in the Diet at its coming session, and public opinion is keenly interested in the question whether the Bill will be submitted in its original form or in a modified form, with amendments conceived in a more liberal spirit, taking account of public opinion and the views of the Commission of the House which discussed the original Bill.

Among the circumstances which justify the anticipation that the Bill when re-introduced will be considerably modified are the following:

1. Prior to the formal submission of the Bill to the Diet, the Bureau of Social Affairs published its unofficial drafts, which enjoyed a certain popularity. This popularity, however, was not lasting and the situation changed when the draft was radically modified by the Administration Investigation Board (*Gyosei Chosa Ka.*);

2. After the Bill had been formally submitted, the trade unions opposed it vigorously, but intimated that they would welcome it if amendments could be made so as to restore it to the form in which it had originally been drafted by the Bureau of Social Affairs.

In the Diet Commission which discussed the Bill some members of *Seiyu-Honto*, an opposition party, took up the attitude that they would either support the Government's Bill or amend it in an even more conservative sense; but *Kensei-Kai*, the Party in power, was willing to accept certain more liberal amendments.

The anticipated amendments, which are considered to be essential, are on the following two points :

1. Federations of various trades unions should be legally recognised.

2. It should be optional for a union to decide whether or no it wishes to become a legal person.

The *Tokyo Asahi* of 12th July last adds that the Bureau of Social Affairs has expressed a wish to re-introduce the Bill in its original form, but some difficulty is anticipated because the final form in which the Bill was submitted by the Government differed from the draft prepared by the Bureau and the amendment can hardly be made by the Bureau alone. Furthermore, the attitude of the House of Lords is not known, since the Bill did not come before it at the last session, and this would appear to be another difficulty in the way of making a definite decision to revert to the original draft. The *Asahi* further reports that, if the trade unions really insist on the necessity of such a step, the introduction of the Bill in the original form drafted by the Bureau of Social Affairs may not be altogether impossible. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 13, 1926.*)

The Present Situation of Japanese Labour Unions

Japan is one of the few countries where, in spite of the bad trade situation, the number of organised workers is showing a steady and rather rapid increase. Investigations made by the Bureau of Social Affairs give the following figures for industrial workers in respect of the last four years :—

Year	Number of Unions	Total Membership
1922	387	137,491
1923	432	125,551
1924	447	175,454
1925	490	234,000

Besides these industrial workers there is the Japan Farmers' Union, which included in its membership 70,000 families at the beginning of 1926.

The Industrial and Labour Research Institute, supported by the labour movement and conducted by Mr. Nosaka, recently made an investigation into the numerical status of the Japanese labour movement, and published the results as a booklet entitled "The Present Situation of the Labour Union Movement in Japan." The report of the Institute was based chiefly on material given in the publications of the Bureau of Social Affairs and data presented by various unions in October 1925. Extracts from this publication are given below.

The following figures are given for the approximate number of Japanese workers. The information was obtained chiefly from the "Outline of

Labour Statistics " prepared by the Statistical Section of the Bureau of Social Affairs :—

Industrial group		Number of workers
Factory workers		2,000,000
Mine workers		310,000
Transport workers		923,000
Electrical workers		55,000
Casual labourers in construction and engineering works		810,000
Commercial employees		1,109,000
Agricultural workers :		
Wage Earners	373,000	3,117,000
Others, including tenant farmers.	2,744,000	
Fishery workers		789,000
Forestry workers		715,000
Salt-field workers		46,000
Total		9,880,000

In order to ascertain the total number of organisable wage-earners, from this total should be deducted 6,238,000. This figure is made up of agricultural, forestry, fishery, and salt-field workers (4,670,000) ; workers employed under the feudalistic system in commercial undertakings (1,100,000) ; and persons engaged in oldfashioned transport—carters (376,000), omnibus drivers (6000), and rickshawmen (86,000). Thus 3,642,000, or 37 per cent. of the total number of workers, may be considered as organisable wage-earners.

The above figures were derived from investigations made by various government departments at different periods. The Bureau of Social Affairs, on the other hand, reported the number of industrial wage earners as 4,350,000 at the end of June 1925. This total is made up as follows :—

Industrial group	Males	Females	Total
Factory workers :			
Factories under state and municipal management	107,639	41,659	
Under Factory Act	71,637	25,588	
Not under Factory Act	36,002	16,071	
Factories under private management	908,839	948,675	
Under Factory Act	641,889	821,368	
Not under Factory Act	266,950	127,307	
Total, factories under Factory Act	713,526	846,956	
Total, factories not under Factory Act	302,952	143,378	
Total	1,016,478	990,334	2,006,812
Mine workers	235,345	75,436	310,781
Other workers	1,640,586	390,522	2,031,118
Total	2,892,409	1,456,302	4,348,711

According to the census of 1st October 1925, the population of Japan proper at that time was 59,736,000. Thus the total number of workers is 16 per cent. and the number of organisable wage-earners 7 per cent., of the total population.

The investigation made by the Bureau of Social Affairs shows that at the end of June 1925 the number of labour unions was a little over 490, and their total membership over 234,000, while according to the investigation made by the Industrial and Labour Research Institute the figures on 1st October of the same year were 209 for the number of unions, and more than 240,000 for their total membership. The author of the report of the Institute, in stating his views regarding the difference between these two sets of figures, says that the higher number of unions presented in the investigation of the Bureau of Social Affairs is due to the fact that such unions are included as the mutual aid societies in factories and mines, or unions organised for the convenience of the employers, which, in his opinion, cannot be regarded as proper trade unions, and that the investigation of the Bureau of Social Affairs gives a comparatively small number of members of unions because its investigation was carried on in ignorance of the actual state of the unions, and in addition was conducted by factory owners or policemen, both unsympathetic towards labour unions.

The report gives the following figures regarding organised workers in October 1925 :—

—	Males	Females	Total
Total population	30,012,820	29,723,884	59,736,704
Organisable workers	2,892,409	1,456,302	4,348,711
Organised workers :			
Number	231,753	9,196	240,949
Per cent. of population	0·77	0·03	0·40
Per cent. of organisable workers	8·0	0·6	5·5

Detailed figures for the total number of workers and the number of organised workers in October 1925, classified by industry, are as follows :—

Industry	Number of Workers	Organised workers	
		Number	Per cent. of total workers
Metals	320,374	92,040	28·7
Textiles	938,842	11,525	1·2
Chemicals	173,881	6,229	3·4
Food and drink	169,539	4,553	2·5
Printing	40,354	8,584	21·4
Miscellaneous	67,169	15,284	22·7
Transport	923,000	92,490	10·0
(*a*) Land	761,000	25,850	3·4
(*b*) Marine	162,000	66,640	41·0
Mining	310,000	2,943	0·9
Electricity	55,000	1,976	3·5
Building and construction	736,800	4,901	0·6
Commercial	1,109,000	423	0·03

The figures showing the change in the number of unions and their membership, classified according to industries, are as follows :—

Industry	October 1924		October 1925	
	Unions	Membership	Unions	Membership
Metals	51	85,200	51	92,040
Textiles	8	10,000	11	11,525
Chemicals	10	3,200	19	6,279
Food and drink	6	3,200	8	4,553
Printing	12	4,100	15	8,584
Miscellaneous	31	8,600	53	15,284
Transport	18	69,400	30	92,490
Mining	4	3,300	5	2,943
Building	6	2,600	12	4,901
Electricity	4	1,500	3	1,976
Commercial			2	423
Total	150	191,300	209	240,949

This table shows that in only one industry, the electricity industry, was there any decrease in the number of unions, and that the membership of the unions increased in all industries except mining.

The 209 unions with 240,949 members in October 1925 may be classified as follows according to the size of their membership :—

Membership of each organisation	Number of organisations	Membership of group	
		Number	Per cent. of total
Less than 1,000	3 Federations	1,357	
	24 Unions	8,511	
		9,868	4
1,000 to 5,000	6 Federations	15,700	
	5 Unions	13,218	
		28,918	12
5,000 to 10,000	4 Federations	24,961	
	2 Unions	14,220	
		39,181	16
More than 10,000	5 Federations	111,999	
	2 Unions	50,983	
		162,982	68
Total	51	240,949	100

The memberships of the five federations and two unions each having more than 10,000 members are as follows :—

Federations	Membership
Federation of Workers in Naval Arsenals ..	42,513
General Federation of Japenese Labour ..	23,305
Council of Japanese Labour Unions	18,693
General Federation of Japanese Transport Workers.	13,923
General Federation of Workers in State Undertakings	13,565
Unions	
Japan Seamen's Union	37,000
Kaiyc Toitsu Kyokai (a seamen's association) ..	13,983

(*From "International Labour Review," Geneva, August 2, 1926.*)

National Maternity Council in Chile

The Chilian Sickness and Invalidity Insurance Act of 8th September 1924 provides for medical care for women workers during pregnancy, confinement, and the post-confinement period, financial aid, and a nursing benefit equal to one-fourth of the mother's wages to be paid to her so long as she nurses her child.

The Act is administered by the Central Compulsory Insurance Fund, and in order to carry it out effectively the fund has decided to establish a National Maternity Council. Plans for the work of the Council provide for the organisation of pre-natal, maternity and infancy consultation centres, maternity homes, dispensaries for the treatment of venereal d seases, and a system of home visiting. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 20, 1926.*)

Census of Population

PRELIMINARY REPORT

The Preliminary Report of the first Census of Population of Saorstat Eireann, prepared by the Statistics Branch of the Department of Industry and Commerce, was issued on Monday, the 23rd August, eighteen weeks after the date of the Census. It shows that in the fifteen years from the 2nd April 1911, to the 18th April 1926, the populations of :—

(*a*) All Ireland decreased from 4,390,219 to 4,229,124—a decrease of 161,095 or 3·7 per cent.

(*b*) Saorstat Eireann decreased from 3,139,688 to 2,972,802—a decrease of 166,886 or 5·3 per cent.

(*c*) Northern Ireland increased from 1,250,531 to 1,256,322—an increase of 5791 or 0·5 per cent.

The report extends to 28 pages—16 pages of text and summary tables, and a tabular appendix of 12 pages. (*From "Irish Trade Journal," Dublin, September 1926.*)

Industrial Hygiene in Japan

Since the introduction of the Factory Act in 1916, sanitary conditions in Japanese factories have been considerably improved. The factory inspectors and assistant supervisors number at present 343, 7 of whom are trained medical officers. The duties of medical inspectors comprise :—

(1) supervision of the observance of laws relating to the equipment of factories and working conditions ;

(2) supervision of the observance of laws dealing with compensation for accidents and occupational disease ;

(3) investigations in regard to industrial hygiene and pathology and prevention of occupational diseases ; and

(4) propagation of necessary information in relation to hygiene amongst employers and workers.

The duties of inspectors comprise, further, advice to employers in relation to improvements to be effected, education of workers in regard to the prevention of disease and the use of sanitary equipment provided, and publicity in regard to general improvement of working conditions. Considerable improvement in the field of industrial hygiene as affecting factories and mines in Japan has resulted from the establishment of the inspection system.

The majority of industrial establishments in Japan are textile factories, which were the earliest to develop. Out of some 20,000 factories 52 per cent. belong to the textile industries, which employ 64 per cent. out of a total number of 1,400,000 workers. Women form 60 per cent. of the total number of workers and 81 per cent. of the total number of workers employed in the textile industries. Female labour in these industries is usually drawn from agricultural districts and it has been necessary to provide boarding accommodation for these workers, 90 per cent. of whom are unmarried.

Boarding-houses attached to the larger factories are mostly well equipped with good ventilation, heating, water supply, and sanitary conveniences. Dining rooms and bathrooms are also provided, and the latter are regularly used and appreciated by the workers. Certain large factories provide houses for their married workers. These are built of wood and consist of two or more rooms with the exclusive use of a kitchen and lavatory for each family.

Houses provided for miners are usually apartment houses, one room, or now more usually two or three rooms, being allotted to each family.

Diet in these boarding-houses was formerly criticised, but has now been improved. From 2500 to 2800 calories are provided for men and from 2300 to 2500 calories for women. All larger factories now employ one or more factory doctors and large factories and mines have well-equipped hospitals. The doctors, in addition to treating workers, act as sanitary advisers to the employers and discuss hygienic amelioration of installations with the state factory inspectors. Periodical returns submitted by factory owners provide mortality statistics, but, pending the inauguration of a system of health insurance, not much reliance can be placed on the statistics available

and the same is true in respect of statistics relative to the incidence of disease, though it has been definitely established that diseases of the digestive system, followed by those of the respiratory system, are the most frequent in industry.

Statistics collected in 1925 show a morbidity rate for men and women workers of 275 per cent. and a ratio of injuries of 42 per cent. Other disease rates quoted are tuberculosis 11 per cent., phthisis 8 per cent., all respiratory diseases 220 per cent., diseases of the digestive system 208 per cent., beri-beri 55 per cent., and trachoma 19 per cent.

Present legislation in regard to compensation is rather indefinite, the worker being entitled to compensation for "illness arising out of his employment." The interpretation of this law in relation to industrial accidents is simple but much less so in regard to occupational disease, more especially as information as to the harmful effects of certain occupations is lacking. Many cases of industrial poisoning have not been accounted for, but investigation in relation to these is now being carried out. The inspectors' report for 1923 refers to 22 cases of lead poisoning amongst the employees of a storage-battery factory, a case of carbon monoxide poisoning in a chemical factory, one case of aniline poisoning and cases of skin disease in chemical factories. No cases of anthrax are reported as affecting workers handling wool and hair for upholstery, or horns and hoofs, but two or three cases have been notified as occurring in a bone manure factory where imported bones were handled. Investigation has in consequence been undertaken in regard to the disinfection of bones. Hookworm is prevalent in the coal mines of Western Japan, and the application of preventive measures is urgently required in relation thereto. (*From "International Labour Review," Geneva, August 1926.*)

A Cost of Living Enquiry in Japan

In the last number of *Industrial and Labour Information* it was stated that the Japanese Government intended to institute an enquiry into the cost of living, to be conducted during the period 1st September 1926 to 31st August 1927.

It is intended to secure information from the families of various categories of workers in different localities, including the families of non-manual workers and of manual workers in the chief occupations. The families will be selected with the collaboration of government and municipal offices, chambers of commerce, employment exchanges and employers' and workers' organisations.

It is hoped to secure data from over 7000 families. The families selected will consist of from two to seven members. Only those families for which more than half the total income is provided by the head of the household are to be included.

The information requested will include the composition of the family, and details as to its income and expenditure, together with the nature of the housing accommodation. The selected families should be capable of keeping detailed records for the year covered by the enquiry. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 163,*)

Unemployment in Russia

The unemployment question continues to cause much concern in Russian Government and trade union circles and recently formed the subject of a lively discussion at the plenary meeting of the all Russian Central Council of Trade Unions.

The number of unemployed which, since 1922, had been steadily increasing, reached its culminating point in July 1924. At that time a general re-organisation of the employment exchanges was carried out, and from then until February 1925 unemployed other than industrial workers were not permitted to register with the exchanges, the result being that the total number of registered unemployed was considerably reduced. But in July 1925, the number again increased, and this increase has been since maintained.

The fluctuations in the number of registered unemployed since 1923 may be seen in the following table, which covers 250 employment exchanges :—

Date	Total number of registered unemployed	Principal categories of unemployed (percentage)		
		Skilled workers	Intellectual workers	Labourers
1st Jan. 1923	641,000	22·0	46·6	20·0
1st July 1923	1,050,000	24·9	33·7	25·9
1st Jan. 1924	1,240,000	25·0	33·7	25·0
1st July 1924 . ..	1,344,300	26·4	30·7	28·2
1st Jan. 1925	901,600	29·1	31·8	23·4
1st July 1925	1,100,000	28·8	23·3	36·1
1st Oct. 1925	1,055,000			
1st May 1926	1,091,000	18·3	18·0	42·0

The actual number of unemployed is greater than that shown in the above table as, although on 1st January 1926 there were 1,029,000 registered unemployed members of trade unions, that number represented about half only (55 per cent.) of the total number of unemployed, which would thus appear to be about two million. It should also be remembered that registration with an unemployment exchange is not compulsory, and a certain number of the unemployed prefer to look for work without passing through the registers of the exchanges. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.*)

Large Scale Production

For manufacturing establishments in the United States with an annual product of £200,000 or more, the National Industrial Conference Board of America reports a striking advantage in productivity over smaller establishments, measured by workers employed. If the annual *per capita*

output of the latter be reckoned at £200, the figure for the larger plants would be no less than £296. As compared with the year 1919, this lead shows a perceptible decline, but the advantage seems large enough to confirm the common notion that productive efficiency increases with the size of plant. In one sense the phrase "per capita" is not happy. It tends to create the impression that the gain for the large establishment is entirely explained by the increased human efficiency of the worker under a presumably more favourable environment. Probably the larger part of the increased output in large-scale industry is to be ascribed to the more extensive use of machinery. Outlay upon machinery and interest on larger capitalisation would thus notably cut down the gross advantage of the large-scale establishment. That this advantage remains decisive would be proved by the remarkable development of large-scale production in America. In the year 1924 the manufacturing plants with a product of £200,000 a year and over employed 25·6 per cent. of all industrial wage-earners, and accounted for 40 per cent. of the total manufactured product. In 1923 these plants had increased in number from 1,900 to 10,326, employing 57 per cent. of all industrial workers, and accounting for 66·4 per cent. of the total manufactures of the country. In other words, in 1923 just two-thirds of the total industrial production of the United States was carried on in plants with an output of £200,000 and more. (*From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, September 9, 1926.*)

Wages in Hungary

The following information relating to wages in Hungary is taken from the second economic report of the *Geldinstitutszentrale*:

Average weekly wage

Industry	In 1914	On 31st December 1925		
	In gold crowns	In gold crowns	In prewar crowns	In paper crowns
Mining	27·00	33·60	25·80	487,000
Metal and Engineering	45·30	33·56	25·80	487,000
Wood	31·80	31·40	24·20	455,000
Textile	26·20	31·28	24·10	454,000
Printing	37·00	48·00	37·00	696,000
Leather	35·50	29·80	23·00	432,000
Flour milling	25·80	24·00	18·50	348,000
Chemical	30·00	27·30	21·00	396,000
Building	32·20	28·00	21·50	406,000

(*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 6, 1926.*)

International Tenants' Congress

The first International Tenants' Congress was held in Zurich from 21 to 24 May 1926. Representatives were present from a large number of countries, principally in Central and Northern Europe.

The congress decided to create an " International Union of Tenants," and drew up its constitution and rules. A Management Committee was elected for three years, composed of Austrian, French, German, Swedish and Swiss delegates, under the chairmanship of Dr. Wirth, President of the Swiss Tenants' Association.

The congress adopted a resolution declaring, among other things, that a lasting and satisfactory solution of the housing and tenancy problems could only be obtained through unity and understanding between tenants' organisations in the different countries. These organisations should consider the three following questions: legislation concerning tenancy and housing; land settlement and colonisation policy; and house building and the management of house property. House building by municipal authorities and public utility societies should be encouraged as much as possible. The Government and the municipalities should stimulate and subsidise house building.

The congress also addressed an appeal to tenants of all countries to join their national tenant organisations.

The next plenary meeting of the new Union will be held in Prague in 1929. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 19, 1926.*)

Proposed Research Institute of Economic Housing

The real crux of the housing problem to-day lies in the economic impossibility of supplying housing for the poorest classes, states a communication to the New York Housing Commission from a group of architects who propose a research institute of economic housing, not a state institution, but participated in by the state and the community served and by the great foundations, which shall have as its object the scientific and economic housing of the labouring classes. It would be established as an allied department of some great technical institution. Its activities would be sub-divided into (1) research, (2) demonstration, and (3) instruction or education. Student training in the class room would be utilized, expert agencies on the outside would contribute, and participating memberships would help to support a scheme which would industrialize the housing industry and obviate the present appalling waste of time, labour, and materials which results from the present unorganized state of the building industry.

Housing for the poorer classes is no better, though vastly more expensive than it was a century ago. In submitting the plan, Grosvenor Atterbury, New York architect, declares that only through some such plan can the concrete problems involved have anything like the scope of attention the magnitude of the question demands. Such an institute, connected with a large university, could thus render a very extraordinary service to the whole public, he says. (*From " Nation's Health," Chicago, July 15, 1926.*)

Standard of Living of Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur

Criminal Tribes

In an article in the August 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette* the preliminary results of the family budget investigation in Sholapur were discussed and it was pointed out that in addition to the 943 budgets for ordinary families 154 family budgets of cotton mill workers residing in the Criminal Tribes Settlement were also collected. It is proposed in this article to deal with the results of this investigation and wherever possible to compare them with those obtained from the larger enquiry.

There are two criminal tribes settlements in Sholapur, one known as the Kalyanpur Settlement and another the Umedpur Settlement. According to the latest report of the Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer, on 31st March 1926 the number of persons in these two settlements was 4215. The Umedpur Settlement does not fall within the Municipal limits of Sholapur and was therefore not visited for purposes of this enquiry. All the budgets collected were from families living in the Kalyanpur Settlement only.

The method of enquiry was the same as in the case of the larger enquiry, but the difficulties met with in collecting reliable budgets were more numerous. For instance, no systematic plan of sampling could be adhered to and the budgets were therefore collected at random, although care was taken to see that all castes and income groups were fairly represented in the enquiry.

These 154 budgets have been analysed according to income groups in order to ascertain roughly the economic position of the community studied. The following table gives an analysis of the budgets by income and compares the distribution of the families by income groups with that of the other workers in Sholapur City:—

I—Number of Families of Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur by Income Classes

Income group	Number of families of cotton mill workers in	
	Sholapur proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement*
Below Rs. 20	15 *7·95*	27 *17·53*
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	207 *21·95*	63 *40·91*
„ 30 „ „ „ 40	231 *24·49*	34 *22·08*
„ 40 „ „ „ 50	185 *19·62*	14 *9·09*

* Owing to the very small number of budgets (16 only) in the last five income groups, only a combined number has been given. The number of budgets in the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth groups were 10, 3, 1, 1 and 1 respectively.

Income group	Number of families of cotton mill workers in	
	Sholapur proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement
Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	99 *10·50*	
„ 60 „ „ „ 70	49 *5·20*	
„ 70 „ „ „ 80	28 *2·97*	16 *10·39*
„ 80 „ „ „ 90	28 *2·97*	
„ 90 and over	41 *4·35*	
	943 *100·00*	154 *100·00*

It will be seen that more than 80 per cent. of the families have a monthly income of less than Rs. 40 while only 54 per cent. of the other families in Sholapur fall within these income groups. It is of course true that owing to errors in the sample, to which reference has already been made, the distribution of families according to income groups may not be an accurate index of their economic position. But allowing for small errors, it seems obvious that as compared to the other workers in Sholapur the criminal tribe families have a smaller income.

Size of the family

The average criminal tribe family consists of 4·97 persons with 1·54 men, 1·60 women and 1·83 children under 14 years of age. The average Sholapur family* consists of 4·84 persons only. Out of these 4·84 persons 0·11 are dependents living away from the family. In the case of the criminal tribes, there are no dependents living away from the family.

The feature common to most family budget enquiries in this Presidency that as the income increases the size of the family also increases is to be seen even here. Of course, the true significance of this phenomenon can be realized only after an analysis of the composition of the families and of the relationships of the inmates of the households to the head of the family. This it is proposed to do in the final report.

Another feature of the following table is that while the average number of men in the Settlement enquiry is smaller than that in the Sholapur enquiry that of women is very nearly the same, while the number of children per family is much higher.

* The expression "Sholapur family" is used in the absence of a more suitable one to denote the family of a cotton mill worker in Sholapur studied by the Labour Office in the larger investigation covering 943 budgets.

The following table gives the number of persons in the family in Sholapur and in the Criminal Tribes Settlement.

II—Average number of persons in the Family

Income Classes	Persons living in the family				Dependents living away from the family	Total family
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Sholapur Proper						
Below Rs. 20	1·00	1·08	1·12	3·20	0·03	3·23
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30 ..	1·17	1·26	1·30	3·73	0 07	3·80
,, 30 ,, ,, ,, 40 ..	1·44	1·45	1·46	4·35	0·13	4·48
,, 40 ,, ,, ,, 50 ..	1·73	1·55	1·43	4·71	0·09	4·80
,, 50 ,, ,, ,, 60 ..	1·99	1·73	1·61	5·33	0·09	5·42
,, 60 ,, ,, ,, 70 ..	2·63	2·21	1·53	6·37	0·12	6·49
,, 70 ,, ,, ,, 80 ..	2·36	2·25	1·71	6·32	0·39	6·71
,, 80 ,, ,, ,, 80 ..	2·79	2·79	2·10	7·68	0·29	7·97
,, 90 and over	3·12	2·78	2·30	8·20	0·27	8·47
All incomes ..	1·67	1·59	1·47	4·73	0·11	4·84
Criminal Tribes Settlement						
Below Rs. 20	1·07	1·07	1·52	3·66		3·66
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30 ..	1·13	1·32	1·87	4 32	0·01	4·33
,, 30 ,, ,, ,, 40 .	1·85	1·88	1·65	5·38		5·38
,, 40 ,, ,, ,, 50 .	2·21	1·93	2·29	6·43		6·43
,, 50 ,, ,, ,, 60 ..						
,, 60 ,, ,, ,, 70 ..						
,, 70 ,, ,, ,, 80 ..	2·69	2·69	2·18	7·56		7·56
,, 80 ,, ,, ,, 90 .						
,, 90 and over						
All incomes ..	1·54	1·60	1·83	4·97		4·97

Income and Expenditure

The average monthly income of the families in the Settlement is Rs. 31-8-4 and the average monthly expenditure Rs. 29, thus leaving a credit balance of Rs. 2-8-4. In the case of the Sholapur workers the average monthly income is Rs. 42-15-2 and the average monthly expenditure Rs. 40-0-11. It will thus be seen that compared with the Settlement family the Sholapur family gets more and spends more. The monthly expenditure of the Sholapur Family in higher in spite of the smaller size of the family which points clearly to the higher standard of life prevailing among the ordinary worker as compared with the Settlement worker.

The following table gives a detailed analysis of the income and expenditure of families in Sholapur and those in the Settlement according to income classes ;—

III—Income and group Expenditure of Families of Cotton Mill workers in Sholapur Proper and in the Criminal Tribes Settlement

Income Groups	Average monthly income		Average monthly expenditure on														Total monthly expenditure		Average monthly excess (+) or deficit (—) of income over expenditure	
			Food		Fuel and Lighting		House-rent		Clothing		Furniture and Household effects		Miscellaneous							
	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement	Sholapur Proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Below Rs. 20 ..	18 3 11	18 2 3	10 6 2	10 2 1	2 8 7	2 8 10	1 9 4	0 10 9	2 7 5	1 15 9	0 4 9	0 4 1	3 11 7	3 13 7	20 15 10	19 7 1	−2 11 11	−1 4 10		
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	25 7 7	25 1 2	13 7 9	13 7 0	2 13 2	2 13 2	1 15 6	0 10 1	3 2 8	2 9 8	0 4 7	0 4 5	5 0 7	5 3 2	26 12 3	24 15 6	−1 4 8	+0 1 8		
Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40.	35 2 2	34 9 5	17 1 10	17 5 9	3 6 8	3 5 0	2 3 6	0 11 0	4 0 9	3 13 4	0 5 10	0 5 2	6 15 4	6 0 2	34 1 11	31 8 5	+1 0 3	−3 1 0		
Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50.	44 9 4	42 15 10	20 7 6	20 8 7	3 14 0	3 9 7	2 9 3	0 9 11	4 15 7	4 6 8	0 5 11	0 4 8	9 4 5	6 2 1	41 8 8	35 9 6	−3 0 8	−7 6 4		
Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	54 3 7		24 10 4		4 6 2		2 10 2		5 12 8		0 7 2		11 1 6		49 0 0		+5 3 7			
Rs. 60 and below Rs. 70	64 4 4		27 9 6		5 1 6		3 5 2		6 14 8		0 8 9		11 15 1		55 6 8		−8 13 8			
Rs. 70 and below Rs. 80.	75 3 5	62 14 8	31 8 3	26 0 11	5 7 0	4 13 10	3 6 0	0 14 6	7 6 11	6 3 0	0 9 11	0 6 3	16 14 11	11 7 0	65 5 0	49 13 6	−9 14 5	+13 1 2		
Rs. 80 and below Rs. 90.	85 3 10		36 7 4		5 13 11		3 15 0		8 6 10		0 10 3		19 0 11		74 6 3		−10 13 7			
Rs. 90 and over .	109 6 7		43 2 8		6 8 3		4 6 11		10 15 4		0 11 11		22 5 0		88 2 1		−21 4 6			
All incomes..	42 15 2	31 8 4	19 14 7	15 10 11	3 12 2	3 2 8	2 7 6	0 10 10	4 12 4	3 4 10	0 6 4	0 4 9	8 12 0	5 14 0	40 0 11	29 0 0	+2 14 3	+2 8 4		

It will be seen from the above table that the expenditure on food and fuel and lighting is almost identical for both kinds of families in the first four income groups. This indicates that the expenditure on these groups is inelastic. On both these groups, the minimum expenditure has to be incurred and it is therefore not surprising that the expenditure returned should be very nearly the same. When we come to the third group, however, we begin to notice differences. The average monthly rent paid by the Sholapur family is Rs. 2-7-6 while the Settlement enquiry shows the figure of only Re. 0-10-10. This difference is due to the fact that while the bulk of the Sholapur workers live in houses built with brick and roofed over by tiles, the families in the Settlement live in huts. The Settlement authorities lease out plots on which the families erect their own huts. The rent charged is nominal.

As regards clothing, at least in the first four income groups the Settlement families seem to spend a little less than the Sholapur families. The observation of the Labour Office Lady Investigators however shows that though the men in the Settlement are not so well dressed as others, the women are usually very neat and tidy.

Except in the first two income groups the expenditure on miscellaneous items of the Settlement families is comparatively lower than that of others. This is due to two reasons: firstly, there is little margin left to spend on miscellaneous items and secondly, the criminal tribes which are in a semi-barbarous state have no idea of a higher standard of life. It is however remarkable that of the amount spent on miscellaneous items (Rs. 5-14 for the 154 budgets) Re. 1-4-1 is spent on liquor and Rs. 1-13-6 by way of interest on debts.

The following table shows the distribution of expenditure on the various groups among the Settlement and Sholapur workers.

IV—Expenditure on groups by Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur

Groups	Sholapur proper	Criminal Tribes Settlement
Food	49·71	54·08
Fuel and Lighting	9·39	10·92
House-rent	6·16	2·33
Clothing	11·91	11·39
Bedding and Household Necessaries	0·99	1·02
Miscellaneous	21·84	20·26
	100·00	100·00

Workers and Dependents

It has already been pointed out that the average number of persons in the Settlement family is 4·97 while in the Sholapur family the figure is 4·73 only. One would have expected that with a larger number in the family the number of earners would also rise. But it is seen that while in the Sholapur family there are 2·02 earners and 2·71 dependents, in the Settlement family there are 1·96 earners and 3·01 dependents. It

is not possible in the absence of any direct evidence to assign any reason for this seemingly curious phenomenon but *probably* it is due to the fact that while in the Sholapur family (in spite of its smaller size) there are 3·26 adults, there are only 3·14 in the Settlement family.

The following table gives the number of earners and dependents in the Sholapur and the Settlement families :—

V—Average number of Workers and Dependents in Families of Cotton Mill Workers in Sholapur

Income group	Sholapur proper					
	Average number of workers in family				Average number of dependents	Total family
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Below Rs. 20	1·00	0·04	..	1·04	2·16	3·20
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30 ..	1·11	0·46	0·02	1·59	2·14	3·73
„ 30 „ „ „ 40 ..	1·35	0·46	0·07	1·88	2·47	4·35
„ 40 „ „ „ 50 .	1 62	0·38	0·05	2·05	2·66	4·71
„ 50 „ „ „ 60 ..	1·84	0·47	0·06	2·37	2·96	5·33
„ 60 „ „ „ 70 ..	2·37	0·55	0·06	2·98	3·39	6·37
„ 70 „ „ „ 80 ..	2·22	0 32	0·14	2·68	3·64	6·32
„ 80 „ „ „ 90 ..	2·54	0·75	0·03	3·32	4·36	7·68
„ 90 and over ..	2·66	0·56	0·02	3·24	4·96	8·20
All incomes	1·54	0·43	0·05	2·02	2·71	4·73

Income group	Criminal tribes settlement					
	Average number of workers in family				Average number of dependents	Total family
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total		
Below Rs. 20	1·00	0·07	..	1·07	2·59	3·66
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30 ..	1·06	0·51	0·05	1·62	2·70	4·32
„ 30 „ „ „ 40 ..	1·59	0·73	0·03	2·35	3·03	5·38
„ 40 „ „ „ 50 ..	2·00	0·50	..	2·50	3·93	6·43
„ 50 „ „ „ 60 ..						
„ 60 „ „ „ 70 ..						
„ 70 „ „ „ 80 ..	2·38	1·06	0·06	3·50	4·06	7·56
„ 80 „ „ „ 90 ..						
„ 90 and over ..						
All incomes	1·39	0·54	0·03	1·96	3·01	4·97

It will be seen from the above table that in both the enquiries the number of earners rises with the income.

The following table gives the number of men, women and children workers for 100 families :—

VI—Number of Cotton Mill Workers per 100 Families in Sholapur

Income group	Sholapur proper				Criminal tribes settlement			
	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total	Men	Women	Children under 14	Total
Below Rs. 20 ..	100	4	..	104	100	7	..	107
Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	111	46	2	159	106	51	5	162
Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40	135	46	7	188	159	73	3	235
Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50	162	38	5	205	200	50	..	250
Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60 .. .	184	47	6	237				
Rs. 60 and below Rs. 70 .. .	237	55	6	298				
Rs. 70 and below Rs. 80	222	32	14	268	238	106	6	350
Rs. 80 and below Rs. 90	254	75	3	332				
Rs. 90 and over ..	266	56	2	324				
All Incomes ..	154	43	5	202	139	54	3	196

The settlement enquiry shows only 196 workers for 100 families as compared with 202 in the Sholapur enquiry. In the Settlement there are fewer men and child workers but a larger number of female workers as compared with the Sholapur enquiry.

Third International Conference of Labour Statisticians

A third Conference of Government Labour Statisticians is to be opened in Geneva on 18th October under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation. The objects of these Conferences, of which the first was held in 1923 and the second in 1925, are to discuss the best methods of compiling labour statistics and to agree upon certain uniform methods which would render international statistics more comparable. Statistics of wages, hours of labour, cost of living, unemployment, industrial accidents and industrial classification have been discussed at previous Conferences. The forthcoming Conference will discuss the methods of statistics of industrial disputes, statistics of collective agreements, methods of conducting family budget enquiries, and will also consider a draft of industries suitable for international comparisons. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," No. 172 of 1926.*)

Reviews of Books and Reports

Twenty-second Annual Statistics of the City of Tokyo, 1926, issued by the Statistical Bureau of the Municipal Office of Tokyo

This valuable statistical publication is divided into sixteen parts and contains 1543 pages. Except the introduction, every part contains numerous statistical tables. Part X which deals with industries is of particular interest.

In addition to the tables the publication contains four very interesting coloured charts.

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Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of factories and workshops for the year 1925 (Great Britain and Northern Ireland)*

The report begins with a brief summary of the industrial situation. It is pointed out that certain trades were consistently busy throughout the year, while others suffered from acute depression. Towards the end of the year a distinctly more hopeful feeling was noticeable which was reflected in a gradual diminution in the number of unemployed persons.

Four new codes of Regulations for dangerous trades came into operation ; the first extended and strengthened the existing code applying to the manufacture of Electric Accumulators ; the second extended and strengthened the code relating to Docks ; the third regulates the lifting of heavy weights in the woollen textile industry and the fourth applies to the grinding of metals in miscellaneous industries. In addition to these, three other codes applying to building, shipbuilding and vehicle painting with lead paint were issued in draft.

During 1925, there were 159,693 accidents (including 944 fatal) showing a decrease of 10,000 on the figures for 1924. This decrease is attributed to the depression in the iron and steel and shipbuilding industries. The relatively small number of accidents sustained by women and girls is noticeable from the statistics given.

It is stated that in a few districts the ' Safety First ' movement made no progress and in some cases even enthusiasm was waning. But in most instances interest is being maintained and in certain areas there has been substantial progress. On the whole, however, the reports on the subject of " Safety First " are somewhat contradictory.

It is stated in the report that factories in which sixty hours of employment prevails are becoming rare and the forty-eight-hour week is becoming universal. But inspite of the wide margin existing between the usual hours of work and those allowed by statute, several cases of illegal employment were discovered. In a number of factories the system of working a five-day week has been introduced.

Statutory Welfare Orders are at present in force in fourteen industries. But while statutory welfare is rather limited in extent, there is virtually

* Cmd. 2714. H. M. Stationery Office, London ; price 2*s.* 6*d.* net.

no limit to voluntary welfare which is now definitely established in industry and is operating on a scale much beyond what is known. One of the most striking features of this movement is its steady growth in the textile industries, and some of the most striking examples are to be found in the cotton industry in Lancashire.

The Report also includes separate reports by the senior medical officer, the senior electrical inspector and the senior engineering inspector.

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Bibliography of Unemployment : International Labour Office : Studies and Reports Series C (Unemployment) No. 12, Geneva, 1926. Price 2/

The bibliography is given in three languages : English, French and German. It includes books, pamphlets, and articles in reviews and journals, published since the year 1914. From it are, however, excluded articles appearing in the newspaper press.

The bibliography is classified according to subjects. These are : (1) General Literature ; (2) Special Problems ; (3) Creation and Expansion of Employment ; (4) Employment Exchanges ; and (5) Unemployment Insurance and Relief.

This publication is invaluable to those engaged in the study of the unemployment problem, the extent and international importance of which may be gauged from the fact that the volume runs to 155 pages and refers to nearly 4000 different publications.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 5. (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Those Profligate Trade Unions, by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 195-197.

(2) *The Annual General Meeting of the N. U. R., by C. T. Cramp (Industrial General Secretary).* pp. 198-200.

(3) *Civil Service Trade Unionism, by J. W. Bowen (General Secretary, Union of Post Office Workers).* pp. 201-203.

(4) *Press and Propaganda in Russia, by Robert Williams (Chairman, Labour Party Executive).* pp. 204-206.

(5) *Easton Lodge : the Plea of an Enthusiast, by G. D. H. Cole.* pp. 207-209.

(6) *Memories and Reflections, by Propagandist.* pp. 210-212.

(7) *The Election of Officials, by Alfred J. Gray, M.A., B.Sc.*—Voting by Crosses—the first ballot, the second ballot, the third ballot ; the transferable vote ; what the vote means ; counting—the first count, the second count, "Plumping," the third count ; advantages of transferable vote ; objections. pp. 213-215.

(8) *The truth about the Belgian State Railways, by Joseph Saxe (Foreign Editor of* Le Peuple). pp. 220-222.

(9) *In the "Eight-fifteen," by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 223-224.

(10) *The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of I. F. T. U., by Leon Jouhaux (Secretary of the French General Confederation of Labour and Vice-President of the International Federation of Trade Unions).* pp. 225-227.

(11) *British War Budgets, by Right Hon. William Graham, M.P.* pp. 231 and 232.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW, VOL. XIV, NO. 2. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Eight-Hour Day : "Taking a Reckoning," by Albert Thomas (Director of the International Labour Office).* pp. 153-174.

(2) *The Eighth Session of the International Labour Conference.*—Agenda of the eighth session composition of the conference ; verification of credentials ; incomplete delegations ; simplification of the inspection of emigrants on board ship ; standing orders of the conference—double discussion, composition of committees, reports under article 408 ; the report of the director ; resolutions ; conclusion. pp. 175-199.

(3) *Unemployment in 1925, by Henri Fuss (Chief of the Unemployment Service, International Labour Office).*—Countries where unemployment increased markedly—Denmark, Norway, Germany, Austria, Poland, Esthonia, Latvia ; Countries where unemployment increased slightly—Sweden, Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium ; Countries where unemployment remained severe—Great Britain, Hungary ; Countries where unemployment fell or remained slight—France, Italy, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Australia and Canada, United States, Japan ; conclusion. pp. 203-231.

(4) *The Legal Minimum Wage of Women Home Workers in France, by Roger Picard (Professor of the Faculty of Law, Lille University).*—The provisions of the Act of 10th July 1915 ; the enforcement of the Act ; the wages of women home workers ; some inadequacies of the Act of 1915 ; conclusion : necessary reforms. pp. 232-256.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIV, NO. 3. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *Employers' Associations in Germany, by W. Kruger.*—Historical survey—the beginnings of the movement, concentration of the movement, the formation of the federation of German employers' associations ; organisation—structure of federation, internal organisation of the associations, internal organisation of the federation, relations between the federation and other industrial organisations ; activities of the federation—pre-war work, war-time activity, the post-war upheaval, the joint industrial association, post-war tasks ; programme—social policy in general, the joint industrial association, freedom of association, strikes, collective agreements, wages policy, adjustment of disputes, hours of work, social insurance, unemployment, disabled ex-service men. pp. 313-344.

(2) *Trade Union Reform in Italy, by Gino Arias (Professor in the University of Florence).* pp. 345-356.

(3) *The Trade Union Movement in the Balkan States.* pp. 357-370.

(4) *Labour in Tanganyika.*—Present situation and general policy ; recruiting ; transport ; wages and hours ; discipline ; health ; child labour ; government labour ; compulsory labour ; labour department. pp. 371-376.

(5) *Industrial Diseases : Analysis of Factory Inspection Reports, 1920-1922 : V.*—Aliphatic Compounds—Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland ; petroleum benzine (benzine—paraffin—naphtha)—Belgium, Germany, Great Britain, Netherlands, Switzerland ; cyanogen derivatives—Austria, Germany, Switzerland ; anthrax—Austria, Belgium, Germany : Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, Other German States, Great Britain, Netherlands, United States ; other infectious diseases—Austria, Germany, Netherlands ; ankylostomiasis—Belgium ; skin diseases—Austria, Belgium, Germany : Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, Other German States, Great Britain, Netherlands, United States. pp. 377-407.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 9. (Harvard Medical School, Baltimore.)

Special Articles : (1) *Modern Views on some Aspects of the Occupational Dermatoses, by R. Prosser White, M.D. (Consulting Dermatologist, R. A. E. Infirmary, Wigan ; Ex-President, London Dermatological Society).*—Difficulty of diagnosis ; differential diagnosis of traumatic dermatosis and idiopathic eczema—distinguishing features ; tendencies which lengthen the prognosis—primary effects of the agents, primary lesions, are scars an industrial risk ? sensitization. pp. 367-378.

(2) *Hookworm Disease in Cotton Mill Villages of Alabama and Georgia : A Study on the Value of Sanitation in a Soil Province Heavily Infested with Hookworms, by Donald L. Augustine, Sc.D.*—Methods of procedure ; incidence and intensity of infestation ; effect of term of residence in sanitated cotton mill village—on intensity of infestation, on weight, on hemoglobin, discussion, summary. pp. 382-391.

(3) *Is Effective Temperature or Cooling Power the Better Index of Comfort ? by H. M. Vernon, M.D. (Investigator to the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, London).*—Introduction ; effective temperature in relation to cooling power ; cooling power observations on numerous subjects ; wet bulb temperatures ; effective temperature as a measure of actual cooling of the body ; conclusions. pp. 392-401.

(4) *Effective Temperature versus Kata-Thermometer : A Reply to H. M. Vernon, by C. P. Yaglou (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass).*—Practical significance of the effective temperature index and comfort zone ; acclimatization in its relation to comfort zone and comfort line ; conflict between Kata-Thermometer and effective temperature ; sensations of air movement and effective temperature ; significance of wet bulb, temperature ; conclusion. pp. 402-413.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXII, NO. 4. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles : (1) *Are Average Wage Rates Keeping Pace with the Increased Cost of Living? by Ethelbert Stewart (United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics).*—Iron and steel industry; railroad section men. pp. 1-4.

(2) *The Longshoreman and Accident Compensation, by Lindley D. Clark, of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.*—Nature and scope of maritime law as affecting personal injuries; localized employments; summary. pp. 5-18.

(3) *Physical Examinations in Industry, by Frank L. Rector, M.D. (Secretary of American Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons, and Editor of the Nation's Health).* pp. 18-23.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXII, NO. 5. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles : (1) *Vacations with Pay for Wage Earners.*—Length of service required; season of vacation; eligibility for vacations; rate of pay and cost of vacations; vacation information; results of giving paid vacations; other studies of vacation plans; vacations given as a result of collective agreements; vacations with pay in foreign countries. pp 1-7.

(2) *Family-Allowance Systems in Foreign Countries.*—Beginning of the movement; family allowances in public employment; family allowances in private industry; number of persons employed under family-allowance systems; methods of granting family allowances; family allowance funds; family allowances in agriculture; relation to the population problem; conclusions. pp. 7-13.

(3) *International Statistics of Working Population.*—Sources of information; numerical strength of the working class; distribution by principal occupational groups. pp. 13-18.

(4) *Effects of Use of Radioactive Substances on the Health of Workers.*—Known cases of death and disease; conditions of employment in dial-painting plants; nature and preparation of radium and radium emanation; study of physical condition of persons engaged in measuring radium preparations in the bureau of standards; other studies of results of use and handling of radioactive substances; study of five cases of necrosis of the jaw by Dr. Drinker; investigation of cases of necrosis by Frederick L. Hoffman; study of the dangers in the use and handling of radioactive substances by Doctors Martland, Conlon and Knef. pp. 18-31.

(5) *Need for Free Legal Aid, by Williams Howard Taft (Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court).* pp. 32 and 33.

(6) *Growth of Legal Aid Work in the United States.*—Small claims court; conciliation tribunals; industrial accident commissions; wage payment legislation; the defender in criminal cases; legal aid organizations; need for consolidation and co-operation. pp. 33-39.

(7) *Simplified Procedure in the Administration of Justice : The Danish Conciliation System, by Reginald Heber Smith* —American experiments; early origin of Danish system; law of 1795; litigation prohibited until conciliation has been attempted; work of conciliation commissions, 1871-1915; problems resulting from development of urban life; act of 1916; maritime and commercial cases; success of the "Lay" commissions in rural communities; success of judicial conciliation in Copenhagen; conclusions. pp. 40-49.

(8) *Report of English Coal Commission.*—Present position of the industry; methods of reorganization; relation between employers and employees; immediate measures; transfer labor; conclusion. pp. 52-56.

(9) *Plans of Operators and of Miners for Meeting the English Coal Crisis.*—Plan of the operators; miners' proposals,—wastes of present system, unified ownership and operation. pp. 56-58.

(10) *Hours of Earnings in Slaughtering and Meat Packing, 1917-1925.*—Wage rates; hours of labor; guaranteed hours of pay; overtime; work on Sundays and holidays. pp. 60-79.

(11) *Unemployment in Foreign Countries.*—Summary for Europe; Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Ireland, free state of; Germany; France; Belgium; Netherlands; Switzerland; Italy; Denmark; Norway; Sweden; Finland; Latvia; Esthonia; Lithuania; Free City of Danzig; Poland; Czechoslovakia; Hungary; Austria; Spain; South Africa, Canada. pp. 151-164.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

By letter of 12th August 1926, the Secretary-General of the League of Nations informed the International Labour Office that the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs had communicated to him the formal ratification by his Government of the Draft Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, adopted by the First Session of the International Labour Conference (Washington, 1919). Ratification was registered on 7th August 1926.

The Convention is not to apply to Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Leased Territory of Kwantung and the South Sea Islands under Japanese mandate. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.*)

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UNITED KINGDOM

At 1st September the average level of retail prices of all commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscelleneous items) was approximately 72 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 70 per cent. a month ago and 74 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 62, 61 and 70 respectively.

The rise in the index-number at 1st September, as compared with a month earlier, was due to increases in the prices of coal, eggs and milk, which were partly counterbalanced by decreases in the prices of potatoes. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.*)

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The general stoppage of work in the coal mining industry, which began on 1st May, involved about one million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 21 million working days in August. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 87 million to the end of August.

Apart from the coal mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August was sixteen; in addition, 19 disputes which began before August were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these thirty five disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in August was about 18,000 working days. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.*)

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Employment in August showed a slight improvement, partly due to increased supplies of imported fuel, but remained bad on the whole, most of the principal industries still being seriously affected by the coal-mining stoppage. The industries in which some improvement was recorded

included cotton, jute, pottery, wool and worsted, iron and steel, tinplate, and railway service. In the engineering, ship-building, printing and tailoring trades there was a decline. In the building trades employment continued good with skilled workers. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, September 1926.*)

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A statistical return issued by the Registrar of Friendly Societies gives details of the membership, income, expenditure, and funds of registered trade unions with 10,000 or more members in the years 1924 and 1925. At the end of 1925 railwaymen were in the strongest position with a membership of 398,600 and funds of £1,911,500. Next in numbers come the Transport and General Workers with 376,300 members, but the funds amounted to only £486,500. The Amalgamated Engineering Union, with a membership of 234,300, had funds of £1,835,600, expenditure during the year amounting to £1,158,700, including unemployment benefit of £473,900. The expenditure of the Boilermakers amounted to no less than £1,399,600, of which £1,154,000 was for unemployment benefit. These two unions received refunds of National Unemployment insurance benefits of £395,900 and £1,213,300 respectively. The Miners had funds at the end 1925 of £1,155,400, as against £1,149,400 at the end of the preceding year. The General and Municipal Workers had at the end of last year a membership of 314,000 and funds of £429,400. (*From "Economist," London, August 28, 1926.*)

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UNITED STATES

The Consumers' League of the City of Cincinnati has recently caused a survey to be made of the holiday schemes in force in the various factories, shops, etc., of their city. The results of this enquiry show that of 256 firms, including 52 factories, 50 shops, and 9 miscellaneous establishments, 145 have no scheme of paid holidays, while 111 give holidays to all or part of their staff. Out of 23,729 persons employed, 15,948 are in receipt of paid holidays. Sixty-seven firms grant holidays to the whole of their staff, and 44 firms to only part of their staff.

The usual length of holidays given is one week, although in some cases two weeks are granted. The minimum period of service required in order to qualify for a holiday ranges from one week to ten years, only 13 firms requiring a minimum service of more than one year. Thirty-two firms stated that they had a graduated scale, in 25 cases the minimum being one week, and in seven less than one week, whereas the maximum was two weeks in 30 cases. In the two remaining cases four weeks' holiday was granted to male staff after service of ten years or more, and six weeks to female staff.

In general, holidays have to be taken during the summer months, and several firms report a "shutdown" period. One firm which had tried a "shutdown" period for two years had decided to discontinue this system.

With regard to the practice of giving pay for public holidays, 54 companies reported that they paid for from three to seven legal holidays in

addition to the personal holidays. Four reported that no pay was given for legal holidays, and in the 53 remaining cases the number of holidays paid for was not specified.

The greater number of firms did not express an opinion with regard to the results of giving holidays, but a certain number stated that they considered them useful in reducing turnover and in improving the morale and health of the workers, the quality of the work, and loyalty to the firm. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 27, 1926.*)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

A Decree of the Polish Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, dated 20th May last, abolishes unemployment allowances for the following categories of unemployed :

(1) Workers who are unemployed as a result of illness, throughout the period during which they benefit by sickness insurance. When sick pay is exhausted the unemployed person loses his right to unemployment allowance only if the illness prevents him from accepting an offer of employment made to him by the public employment exchange.

(2) Persons unemployed as a result of invalidity, throughout the period of such invalidity. The right to an allowance is resumed if the unemployed person again becomes capable of work to an extent which allows him to accept an offer of employment made by the public employment exchange.

The industrial accident insurance institute or, if the worker is not insured, the district medical officer or factory inspector, are entrusted with the duty of determining whether or not the unemployed person has recovered his capacity to work.

(3) Persons unemployed as a result of a strike, throughout the duration of the strike in the undertaking where they were employed. Unemployed persons of this class recover their right to an allowance if, when the strike is settled, they are still without employment.

The right to an allowance is not lost when the strike is due to the fault of the employer, duly noted by the factory inspector.

(4) The allowance is abolished in the case of unemployed persons who have lost their employment as the result of any fault or action which, under existing legislation, authorises the employer to dismiss a worker without previous notice.

The Order came into force on 11th June last and supersedes that of 30th March 1925 on the same subject. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 30, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The Spanish Government recently published in the *Gaceta de Madrid* the text of a new Labour Code, drawn up by the Committee appointed for that purpose by Royal Order of 22nd February 1924.

In connection with the publication of the Code, Mr. Aunos, Minister of Labour, Commerce and Industry, made a statement to the press on the work accomplished by the Committee and on the scope and importance of the codification of labour legislation.

He pointed out that an essential feature, namely, the definition of the labour contract, had hitherto been lacking in Spanish labour legislation. The Committee, whose labours had been shared by the employers' and workers' representatives on the Council of Labour and by representatives from the War Office and the Admiralty, had defined the labour contract, and, what was still more important, had made provision in the new Code for the recognition of the collective agreement, thus putting an end to the controversy which had raged round this subject for some time past.

The Minister also emphasised the importance of the inclusion of regulations concerning indentures of apprenticeship and certain amendments to industrial courts' procedure. He added that, as the Labour Code contained only laws of a permanent character, all other laws would form the subject of a special collection in which would be included legislation on night work, Sunday rest, inspection, and other measures of an administrative character. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, September 27, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

The Ontario Office Superintendents of the Employment Service of Canada, at their recent annual convention, discussed suggestions for dealing with an alleged prejudice on the part of some employers of labour in Canada against British workmen. It was stated that the Employment Offices were often asked by railway managers, contractors lumber and steel companies and other employers to supply non-English speaking workmen to the exclusion of British and Canadian workmen. As proof of the injustice of such a prejudice it was pointed out that British workers were able in their own country to carry on heavy work such as is required in Canada without the assistance of foreigners. Moreover in Canada British workmen commonly engage in city labour at wages similar to those paid in the occupations in which preference is now given to foreigners. In former years, it was stated, railway tract labour was all done by English, Irish and Scotch workmen. The opinion was further expressed that competent British workmen are still available if provision should be made for wages, sanitary sleeping quarters, foremen of British stock, and fair living conditions. The married British workman, it is found, usually prefers to remain at home, but it was thought that there were sufficient unmarried men for the " long distance jobs " to be filled. In order to remedy these conditions it was recommended (1) that the Provincial Government should be asked to provide the same sanitary standards in connection with bunk cars and construction camps as are now followed in lumber camps ; (2) that the manager of railways and other industries be invited to give English speaking workers equal opportunities of employment ; (3) that the Employment Officers should use their best judgment in sending out men who are reasonably certain to prove successful; (4) that the Dominion Government should only admit immigrants of a good type, and return unfit immigrants to the country of their origin.

It was further stated at the meeting that the problem of the assimilation of new arrivals, particularly those unable to speak English, was not confined to Ontario. In Saskatchewan, for instance, the new comers tend to settle

in isolated racial groups, and passively resist efforts to establish them as Canadians. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, July 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The question of the employment of women underground in Japanese mines was considered recently by the Commission on General Problems of the Japanese Association for International Labour Legislation, and the following resolutions were passed :

"(1) This Association, prompted by humanitarian motives, having regard to the importance of protecting mothers, and taking into consideration the general tendency in foreign countries on this question, recognises the necessity of prohibiting women from working underground in mines, even though this involves some sacrifice on the part of industry.

We further recognise that the most effectual method of effecting such prohibition would be by the prompt establishment by law of the principle of prohibition. As a transitional measure, however, we believe that it is proper to allow those women who are at present working underground in mines to continue their work for three years.

(2) In order to achieve the object set out in the above resolution, this Association shall take the following steps :

(*a*) With a view to arousing the interest of public opinion, the gist of the report of the women members of the Commission shall be published in leaflet form, and distributed to those who may be interested in the question. If it is found desirable, public lectures on the question may also be organised.

(*b*) The attention of labour and women's organisations shall be called to the matter, and their co-operation invited.

(*c*) Representations shall be made to the Government and the attention of the Imperial Diet shall be called to the question.

(*d*) The attention of the employers shall also be directed to it.

(*e*) The Association for the Investigation of Working Conditions in Mines (*Kozan Rodo Jijo Chosa Kai*) shall be urged to take more vigorous measures.

(*f*) If necessary, the matter may be brought before the International Labour Conference." (*From "International Labour Office, Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 166.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN SEPTEMBER 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1926	1926		
1. The Motilal Hirabhai Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	350	..	16 Sept.	19 Sept.	Demand for better wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	739	2,654	16 Sept.	20 Sept.	Demand for better rates for working on big bobbins.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
3. The Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	35	..	24 Sept.	25 Sept.	In sympathy with a dismissed Jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING SEPTEMBER 1926

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Aug 1926	Machinery in motion — Sept 1926	Other causes — Jan to Aug 1926	Other causes — Sept 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Aug 1926	Fatal — Sept 1926	Serious — Jan to Aug 1926	Serious — Sept 1926	Minor — Jan to Aug 1926	Minor — Sept 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Aug 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Sept 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	363	43	214 *b*	16	3	2	85	17	491	40	579	59
Woollen Mills ..	3	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	5	2	5	2
Others ..	5	1	2	..	..	..	2	..	5	1	7	1
Total ..	371	45	218	17	3	2	87	17	501	43	591	62
II Workshops—												
Engineering ..	20	5	249	25	..	.	12	1	257	29	269	30
Railway ..	106	14	1,225 *c*	118	3	.	55	7	1,294	125	1,352	132
Mint ..	1	..	2	.	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Others ..	14	1	40	..	1	..	3	..	50	1	54	1
Total ..	141	20	1,516	143	4	..	52	8	1,602	155	1,658	163
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works .	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	4	..
Flour Mills ..	2	..	2	..	..		1	..	3		4	..
Printing Presses..	5	1	7	..	..	..	..	..	12	1	12	1
Others ..	9	..	38	..	1	..	6	..	40	..	47	.
Total ..	17	1	50	..	2	..	7	.	58	1	67	1
Total, All Factories ..	529	66	1,784	160	9	2	146	25	2,161	199	2,316	226

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Aug 1926	Machinery in motion — Sept 1926	Other causes — Jan to Aug 1926	Other causes — Sept 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Aug 1926	Fatal — Sept 1926	Serious — Jan to Aug 1926	Serious — Sept 1926	Minor — Jan to Aug 1926	Minor — Sept 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Aug 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Sept 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	177	32	84	17	2	1	29	3	230	45	261	49
Total ..	177	32	84	17	2	1	29	3	230	45	261	49
II Miscellaneous—												
Match Factory ..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	..	.	..	.	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	..	1	..	.	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	2		3	..	1	.	..	..	4	..	5	..
Total, All Factories ..	179	32	87	17	3	1	29	3	234	45	266	49

Explanations :—"Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
b 3 persons affected by one accident.
c 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING SEPTEMBER 1926—*contd.*

3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Aug 1926	Machinery in motion — Sept 1926	Other causes — Jan to Aug 1926	Other causes — Sept 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Aug 1926	Fatal — Sept 1926	Serious — Jan to Aug 1926	Serious — Sept 1926	Minor — Jan to Aug 1926	Minor — Sept 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..	2	1	17	5	1	..	1	..	17	6	19	6
Engineering ..	2	1	13	1	..	..	1	..	14	2	15	2
Total ..	4	2	30	6	1	.	2	..	31	8	34	8
II Miscellaneous—	2	1	9	..	.	..	1	..	10	1	11	1
Total ..	2	1	9	..	..	..	1	..	10	1	11	1
Total, All Factories ..	6	3	39	6	1	.	3	..	41	9	45	9

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Aug 1926	Machinery in motion — Sept 1926	Other causes — Jan to Aug 1926	Other causes — Sept 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Aug 1926	Fatal — Sept 1926	Serious — Jan to Aug 1926	Serious — Sept 1926	Minor — Jan to Aug 1926	Minor — Sept 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Aug 1926	Sept 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	75	8	66	6	4	..	20	2	117	12	141	14
Others ..	4	..	3	1	..	.	3	.	4	1	7	1
Total ..	79	8	69	7	4	..	23	2	121	13	148	15
II Workshops—												
Railway ..	28	5	152	16	..	..	12	2	168	19	180	21
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	3	1	4	1	.	..	1	1	6	1	7	2
Others ..	9	2	19	1	1	..	4	..	23	3	28	3
Total ..	40	8	175	18	1	..	17	3	197	23	215	26
III Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories .	5	..	13(*a*)	..	2	..	8	..	11	..	21	..
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	11	2	10(*b*)	3	4	..	4	2	15	3	23	5
Total ..	16	2	23	3	6	.	12	2	26	3	44	5
Total, All Factories ..	135	18	267	28	11	..	52	7	344	39	407	46

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(*a*) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of August			Five months ended August		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	,, ..	6,227	7,851	7,762	26,446	33,772	35,063
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	,, ..	19,388	19,984	19,768	88,543	99,709	93,042
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	,, ..	13,602	13,107	13,563	67,759	71,179	75,563
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	,, ..	1,201	1,099	1,667	6,662	5,895	8,480
Above 40 ..	,, ..	475	425	905	1,955	2,199	4,123
Waste, etc. ..	,, ..	11	90	99	58	227	565
	Total ..	40,904	42,556	43,764	191,423	212,981	216,836

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	,, ..	5,492	7,111	6,871	23,497	30,372	31,248
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	,, ..	13,842	13,041	13,643	60,792	65,815	62,961
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	,, ..	8,846	8,163	8,242	42,247	46,129	46,905
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	,, ..	697	640	848	3,590	3,246	3,923
Above 40 ..	,, ..	311	253	361	1,048	1,335	1,554
Waste, etc. ..	,, ..	2	81	90	15	183	514
	Total ..	29,190	29,289	30,055	131,189	147,080	147,105

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	,, ..	184	221	208	958	1,088	1,053
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	,, ..	3,098	3,980	3,372	15,094	19,061	16,682
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	,, ..	3,361	3,814	3,780	19,280	19,365	20,962
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	,, ..	342	307	646	2,280	1,762	3,593
Above 40 ..	,, ..	118	109	427	699	586	1,984
Waste, etc. ..	,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	7,103	8,431	8,433	38,311	41,862	44,274

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,489	1,535	1,897	4,998	5,286	5,921
Chudders „ ..	1,321	1,857	1,728	5,586	6,688	7,961
Dhotis „ ..	6,493	6,311	7,787	29,195	32,660	38,760
Drills and jeans „ ..	870	850	816	5,169	4,861	4,661
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	40	29	23	327	298	116
Printers „ ..	301	140	132	1,557	1,086	852
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	8,047	6,623	9,609	41,062	39,825	52,306
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	1,274	1,060	1,291	4,859	5,078	5,852
Tent cloth „ ..	332	141	130	871	626	286
Other sorts „ ..	443	383	324	2,550	2,573	2,228
Total „ ..	20,610	18,929	23,737	96,174	98,981	118,943
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	9,807	8,108	9,457	39,780	38,703	46,412
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	169	220	219	810	1,200	1,385
Hosiery „ ..	12	22	20	61	93	119
Miscellaneous „ ..	215	262	237	678	801	1,182
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	7	40	98	25	265	813
Grand Total „ ..	30,820	27,581	33,768	137,528	140,103	168,854

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,060	1,318	1,676	3,444	4,258	5,269
Chudders „ ..	804	1,420	1,293	3,374	4,682	5,781
Dhotis „ ..	2,186	2,240	2,549	9,036	11,080	12,065
Drills and jeans „ ..	760	663	747	4,686	4,257	4,254
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	29	14	5	270	195	23
Printers „ ..	9	1	..	24	13	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	5,907	4,961	7,265	29,362	29,838	40,588
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	1,077	840	887	3,698	3,797	4,056
Tent cloth „ ..	92	95	120	401	461	252
Other sorts „ ..	188	208	166	1,128	1,136	1,268
Total „ ..	12,112	11,760	14,708	55,623	59,717	73,556
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	8,000	6,350	6,918	30,920	28,270	32,732
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	165	209	214	783	1,208	1,342
Hosiery „ ..	5	5	5	29	26	24
Miscellaneous „ ..	194	151	187	604	639	960
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	6	38	90	18	249	503
Grand Total „ ..	20,482	18,513	22,122	87,977	90,109	109,117

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of August			Five months ended August		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	382	58	36	1,117	272	131
Chudders „ ..	446	319	328	1,772	1,564	1,680
Dhotis „ ..	3,647	3,261	4,226	15,782	16,198	21,832
Drills and jeans „ ..	29	74	20	138	293	140
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	12	15	18	51	89	90
Printers „ ..	216	72	59	1,007	593	453
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,746	1,345	1,713	9,592	7,816	8,853
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings „ ..	175	203	317	881	1,180	1,380
Tent cloth „ ..	234	40	2	438	131	9
Other sorts „ ..	151	121	89	951	1,001	537
Total „ ..	7,038	5,508	6,868	31,729	29,137	35,105
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	948	1,038	1,503	5,119	6,570	8,878
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	1	1	1	3	5	6
Hosiery „ ..	7	16	15	32	65	95
Miscellaneous „ ..	21	94	41	75	138	211
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	..	3	9	2	14	303
Grand Total „ ..	8,015	6,660	8,437	36,960	35,929	44,598

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 12 7	6 12 7	100	137	144	144
Wheat	Delhi No 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 5 3	8 5 6	8 1 6	100	149	149	145
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	71 0 0	72 8 0	77 8 0	100	158	161	172
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	55 8 0	53 8 0	50 8 0	100	139	134	126
Jowari	Cawnpore ..	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 7 1(1)	4 10 6(1)	100	131	141	148
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 7 1	4 8 10	4 5 5	100	135	139	132
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	4 15 7	5 8 1	6 0 6	100	152	168	184
Index No.—Cereals ..			.	..	..	..	100	143	148	150
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 7 1	5 8 1	5 4 8	100	105	130	125
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	5 13 1	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	103	135	135
Index No.—Pulses ..			..	..	..	..	100	104	133	130
Index No.—Food grains ..			..	..	..	..	100	134	145	146
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	..	..	16 2 0	100	..	..	176
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	14 13 0	16 0 0	16 9 0	100	145	157	163
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	12 14 10	10 9 10	10 3 3	100	164	135	129
Index No.—Sugar ..			..	..	..	..	100	159	146	156
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	10 1 1	7 1 2	7 12 1	100	180	127	139
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	88 9 2	80 0 0	77 2 3	100	194	175	169
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	153	136	136
Index No.—Other food ..			..	..	..	..	100	176	146	148
Index No.—All Food ..			..	..	..	..	100	146	145	148
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	12 15 0	10 14 0	10 12 0	100	145	122	121
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	11 8 0	11 4 0	11 5 0	100	144	141	141
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 10 0	15 0 0	14 14 0	100	125	138	137
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	14 11 0	..	18 0 0	100	131	..	160
Index No.—Oilseeds ..			..	..	..	..	100	136	134	140

Textile Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw—											
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	462 0 0	350 0 0	350 0 0	100	184	139	139	
Oomra	Do.	"	222 0 0	..	341 0 0	341 0 0	100	..	154	154	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	.	360 0 0	360 0 0	100	..	157	157	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	..	308 0 0	308 0 0	100	.	150	150	
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	.	291 0 0	291 0 0	100	.	147	147	
Index No.—Cotton, raw			..	.	..	..	100	184	149	149	
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 8 0	1 3 6	1 1 6	100	188	153	137	
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	11 8 0	9 8 0	9 4 0	100	194	160	156	
White mulls	6,000	"	4 3 0	10 12 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	257	253	233	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	22 12 0	19 6 0	19 0 0	100	219	187	183	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds	Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 3	1 0 3	1 0 0	100	192	171	168	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 1 3	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	181	163	163	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			..	..	..	..	100	205	178	173	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton				.	..	..	100	202	165	162	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 10 7	5 13 7	6 2 5	100	149	113	119	
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 4 10	4 5 4	100	160	146	147	
Index No.—Other Textiles		. ..		.	..	..	100	155	130	133	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 11 4	1 5 9	1 6 7	100	148	118	122	
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 12 11	0 12 4	0 15 3	100	75	72	88	
Skins, Goat	Do	"	1 4 0	2 7 11	2 6 7	2 6 3	100	200	193	191	
Index No.—Hides and Skins		. ..		.	..	..	100	141	128	134	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	57 0 0	57 0 0	100	103	94	94	
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	175	163	163	
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	11 0 0	10 0 0	9 14 0	100	142	129	127	
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	14 0 0	13 14 0	13 14 0	100	156	154	154	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194	
Index No.—Metals			..	.	..	.	100	153	147	146	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	155	142	142	
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	24 6 11	18 14 7	21 5 4	100	124	96	108	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 6	7 6 0	100	170	169	169	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	9 8 6	100	185	186	186	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles		...	..	..	..	..	100	159	148	151	
Index No.—Food		. .	..	..	.	..	100	146	145	148	
Index No.—Non-food		. ..	..	..	..	..	100	164	149	150	
General Index No.			..	..	..	..	100	157	148	149	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	July 1914	Sept 1925	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p. (1)	Rs. a. p. (3)	Rs. a. p. (3)				
Cereals—										
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	60 12 0	67 12 0	65 12 0	100	156	174	169
Wheat, white	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 30 % red.	,,	31 8 0	43 8 0	42 8 0	41 8 0	100	138	135	132
,, red	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 92 % red.	,,	31 4 0	42 8 0	41 8 0	40 8 0	100	136	133	130
,, white	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	44 12 0	43 12 0	42 12 0	100	138	135	132
,, red	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	43 12 0	42 12 0	41 12 0	100	136	133	129
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	40 0 0	39 4 0	39 15 0	100	157	154	157
Barley	3 % dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	33 0 0	37 0 0	36 0 0	100	125	140	136
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	141	143	141
Pulses—										
Gram	1 % dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	34 0 0	40 0 0(2)	40 8 0(2)	100	115	136	137
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white ..	Cwt.	9 2 0	14 5 0	15 1 0	15 10 0	100	157	165	171
,, ..	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6		14 2 0	15 2 0	100		175	187
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	157	170	179
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	2 0 0	100	79	79	94
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 6 0	3 10 0	3 8 0	100	125	134	129
Rapeseed, bold	3 % admixture .	Candy	51 0 0	72 0 0			100	141	..	
Gingelly	Black 9 % admixture .	,,	62 0 0	85 0 0			100	137	..	
Index No.—Oilseeds ..							100	134	134	129
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills .	100 bags	38 4 0	69 8 0	50 0 0	55 0 0	100	182	131	144

Textiles—Cotton										
(*a*) Cotton, raw .. .	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	42 12 0	33 8 0	34 0 0	100	211	165	168
(*b*) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	21 0 0	18 12 0	18 12 0	100	205	183	183
Shirtings	Laepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	100	217	198	198
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..							100	211	191	191
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..							100	211	182	183
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	47 0 0	34 0 0	37 0 0	100	168	121	132
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
Index No.—Hides ..				. ..	. ..		100	64	56	56
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	68 8 0	58 0 0	58 0 0	100	113	96	96
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	6 8 0	5 14 0	6 0 0	100	168	152	155
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	7 2 0	5 8 0	5 12 0	100	163	126	131
Index No.—Metals ..							100	148	125	127
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 4 0	21 4 0	100	144	133	133
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	183	183
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	165	163	163
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	164	160	160
Index No.—Food ..							100	134	142	143
Index No.—Non-food ..							100	153	136	138
General Index No. ..							100	146	138	140

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotations for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1923														
September ..	124	85	209	354	182	136	211	215	196	149	177	162	178	179
1924														
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a)164	(a)158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105(m)
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 "	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 "	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 "	157	170	144	(a) 149	(f) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173(m)
1925 February	157	179	150	..	160	502	517	.	170	133	..	..
" March	159	179	148	150	..	602	511	271	170	133	386	..
" April	158	175	147	..	..	600	506	..	168	134	..	..
" May	156	173	146	..	..	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
" June	154	172	146	153	..	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
" July	157	173	146	..	.	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
" August	152	173	149	..	163	610	517	..	167	132	..	..
" September	151	174	149	155	..	624	525	248	167	132	401	..
" October	153	176	149	..	.	643	533	..	165	132	..	..
" November	153	176	152	.	..	643	534	.	165	131	..	..
" December	155	177	154	156	.	640	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155	.	..	665	527	..	167	131	..	..
" February	154	173	154	.	162	661	526	.	165	131	..	..
" March	155	172	154	156	..	654	521	225	.	131	451	..
" April	153	168	153	..	..	642	529	..	.	131	..	..
" May	153	167	152	..	.	652	558	.	160	132	..	..
" June	155	168	150	..	..	650	579	218	162	131	485	175
" July	157	170	150	..	.	669	637	.	162	130	..	..
" August	155	170	..	..	163	..	681	..	.	.	..	.
" September	155	172	.	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..
" October	155	.	.	..	..	.	.	..			..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures () Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100	..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100(f)	100	100
1914 ,, ..	100	96	..	..	106	(e) 100	..	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,, ..		97	..	..	147	102	..	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,, ..		117	..	..	138	124	..	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,, ..		149	..	..	153	169	..	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,, ..	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,, ..	222	236	..	..	189	226	..	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,, ..	216	259	152	..	228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,, ..	199	200	150	..	175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,, ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,, ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,, ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
,, September ..	181	207	149	177	170	147	167	486	158	275	153	154	149
,, October ..	181	213	153	175	171	156	170	497	161	276	162	157	152
,, November ..	176	214	155	173	171	158	170	504	161	277	162	158	153
,, December ..	176	214	157	179	173	156	170	507	160	278	163	161	157
1925 January ..	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
,, February ..	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
,, March ..	171	204	160	179	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
,, April ..	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
,, May ..	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June ..	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
,, December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
,, August ..	148	177	..	..	..	.	149	889	..	..	143	..	149
,, September ..	149	..	..	..	..	..	.	.	..	..	..	..	.

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.
†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a)100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 ,,	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 ,,	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 ,,	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214 g	181	166	178
1918 ,,	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,,	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,,	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,,	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,,	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e)184	157
1923 ,,	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	371	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	(e)188	166
1924 ,,	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e)200	170
1925 February	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,089	155	283	170	..	168
,, March	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
,, April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
,, May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	..	265	169	..	165
,, June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
,, July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
,, August	147	168	146	119	156	152		423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	..	228	166	..	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	..	216	162	..	167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	..	205	159	..	..
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	.	198	158	..	..
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	..	1,041	..	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	..	1,052	..	194	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	.	.	1,067	..	198	156	..	159
,, August	153	161	..	..	.	150	.	587	..	..	1,116	..	196	156	..	..
,, September	152	162	..	..	..	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, October	153	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1926

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p	Rs. a. p	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 *135*	8 14 3 *133*	8 14 3 *144*	8 0 4 *152*	8 12 8 *152*	7 8 9 *135*	8 14 3 *133*	8 14 3 *144*	8 6 9 *159*	8 12 8 *152*
Wheat		7 9 7 *136*	6 2 6 *146*	7 4 4 *154*	6 12 6 *131*	8 0 0 *149*	7 7 0 *133*	6 1 6 *145*	7 4 4 *154*	6 12 6 *131*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari		5 11 2 *131*	4 11 4 *130*	5 5 4 *140*	3 7 1 *120*	5 3 10 *153*	5 11 2 *131*	4 12 5 *131*	5 5 4 *140*	3 8 2 *122*	5 7 1 *159*
Bajri		6 2 9 *143*	6 10 8 *158*	6 10 8 *142*	4 12 10 *137*	6 0 1 *146*	6 9 1 *152*	6 12 11 *162*	6 10 8 *142*	4 15 2 *141*	6 4 2 *153*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*136*	*142*	*145*	*135*	*150*	*138*	*143*	*145*	*138*	*153*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund ..	6 2 7 *143*	5 7 6 *144*	5 11 5 *143*	5 6 1 *125*	5 7 1 *112*	6 6 8 *149*	5 6 9 *142*	5 11 5 *143*	5 10 2 *131*	5 10 9 *117*
Turdal		7 13 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	10 0 0 *162*	7 10 2 *131*	8 14 3 *135*	7 14 9 *136*	8 1 7 *121*	10 0 0 *162*	7 5 8 *126*	8 14 3 *135*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*139*	*132*	*153*	*128*	*124*	*143*	*132*	*153*	*129*	*126*

Other articles of food—												
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	13 11 1 *180*	11 10 2 *160*	13 5 4 *167*	13 14 7 *139*	14 15 3 *160*	14 4 7 *187*	11 13 8 *163*	13 5 4 *167*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	
Jagri (gul)		14 4 7 *167*	11 10 2 *167*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 3 1 *145*	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 8 5 *150*	
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 2 *194*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 2 11 *230*	0 15 1 *193*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	
Salt	Maund ..	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 7 8 *189*	2 4 7 *151*	3 7 6 *156*	2 13 5 *151*	
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 6 *190*	0 6 0 *100*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 6 0 *106*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	
Mutton . ..		0 10 11 *164*	0 10 9 *179*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 10 11 *164*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	11 0 7 *221*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	8 3 3 *185*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	
Ghee		97 9 11 *192*	77 9 4 *182*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	84 3 4 *163*	94 0 11 *185*	77 9 4 *182*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	84 3 4 *163*	
Potatoes		7 11 10 *173*	10 0 0 *184*	8 14 3 *234*	16 0 0 *400*	9 9 9 *285*	7 2 3 *159*	5 9 10 *104*	8 0 0 *210*	8 0 0 *200*	7 5 2 *217*	
Onions		4 12 2 *307*	2 11 2 *148*	3 1 3 *154*	3 5 4 *133*	3 5 4 *166*	5 5 9 *345*	3 1 6 *170*	3 1 3 *154*	3 5 4 *133*	3 3 10 *162*	
Cocoanut oil		28 9 2 *113*	26 10 8 *108*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	
Index No.—Other articles of food ..	..	*182*	*170*	*169*	*176*	*169*	*184*	*167*	*165*	*156*	*158*	
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*166*	*159*	*162*	*160*	*159*	*169*	*157*	*159*	*149*	*153*	

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1923									
October	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, NOVEMBER, 1926 [No. 3

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

The response to the Labour Office circular letter on this subject has been very encouraging and many requests for additional copies of the schedule have been received. The Labour Office is indebted to employers and their staffs for their ready co-operation.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of October 1926. The average absenteeism was 12·25 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·74 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 2·51 per cent. for Viramgaum, 14·48 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·83 per cent. for Broach.

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13·10 per cent. in the Engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 12·79 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 10·90 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 9·70.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In November 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 154 as against 155 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 152.

EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

The European cost of living index stood at 158 in October 1926 as against 159 in July 1926.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 147 for the month of October 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in progress during October 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 6120 and the number of working days lost 14,358.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During October 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 141 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for November 1926

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **54 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **52 per cent.**

In November 1926,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay city declined by one point as compared with the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index was 155 in October and 154 in November 1926. The general index was 39 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a fall of one point during the month. There was a fall of 1, 4 and 9 points in the price of rice, jowari and bajri respectively. Gram went up by 2 points whilst wheat and turdal remained stationary. Amongst other food articles mutton declined by 2 points. Onions further advanced by 76 points but the price of potatoes showed no change. Cocoanut oil rose by 3 points but the prices of sugar (refined), gul, tea, salt, milk and ghee remained practically the same. The " other food " index stood at 180 both in October and in November 1926.

There was a rise in the price of coal but the " fuel and lighting " index remained steady at 164. The clothing group registered a further fall of 3 points thus reaching the lowest level (156) in 1926.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	55
February ..	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	54
March ..	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	55
April ..	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	53
May ..	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	53
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	55
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	57
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	55
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	55
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	55
November..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	54
December..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between October 16 and November 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—NOVEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926	July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·547	7·469	391·58	528·29	522·83
Wheat	,,	21	5·594	7·354	7·354	117·47	154·43	154·43
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5·781	5·615	47·89	63·59	61·77
Bajri	,,	6	4·313	6·490	6·089	25·88	38·94	36·53
Total—Cereals			...	...	...	582·82	785·25	775·56
Index Numbers—Cereals			...	...	...	*100*	*135*	*133*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·682	6·771	43·02	66·82	67·71
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	8·089	8·089	17·53	24·27	24·27
Total—Pulses			...	...	...	60·55	91·09	91·98
Index Numbers—Pulses			...	...	...	*100*	*150*	*152*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	13·693	13·693	15·24	27·39	27·39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	14·287	14·287	59·90	100·01	100·01
Tea	,,	½	40·000	78·630	78·630	1·00	1·97	1·97
Salt	,,	5	2·130	3·313	3·313	10·65	16·57	16·57
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·547	0·547	9·04	15·32	15·32
Mutton	,,	33	0·417	0·714	0·703	13·76	23·56	23·20
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	,,	1½	50·792	95·240	95·240	76·19	142·86	142·86
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	7·141	7·141	49·27	78·55	78·55
Onions	,,	3	1·552	5·953	7·141	4·66	17·86	21·42
Cocoanut Oil	,,	½	25·396	27·974	28·573	12·70	13·99	14·29
Total—Other food articles			...	...	...	381·18	684·24	687·74
Index Numbers—Other food articles			...	...	...	*100*	*180*	*180*
Total—All food articles			...	...	...	1,024·55	1,560·58	1,555·28
Index Numbers—All food articles			...	...	...	*100*	*153*	*152*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·406	7·406	21·88	37·03	37·03
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·49
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0·771	0·797	0·54	0·77	0·80
Total—Fuel and lighting			...	...	...	60·44	99·29	99·32
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting			...	...	...	*100*	*164*	*164*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·969	0·938	16·04	26·16	25·33
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	1·021	0·974	16·03	25·53	24·35
T. Cloth	,,	36	0·583	0·906	0·922	20·99	32·62	33·19
Total—Clothing			...	...	...	53·06	84·31	82·87
Index Numbers—Clothing			...	...	...	*100*	*159*	*156*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent			...	...	...	*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total			...	...	...	**1,251·07**	**1,938·58**	**1,931·87**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.			...	...	...	**100**	**155**	**154**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in October and November 1926 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

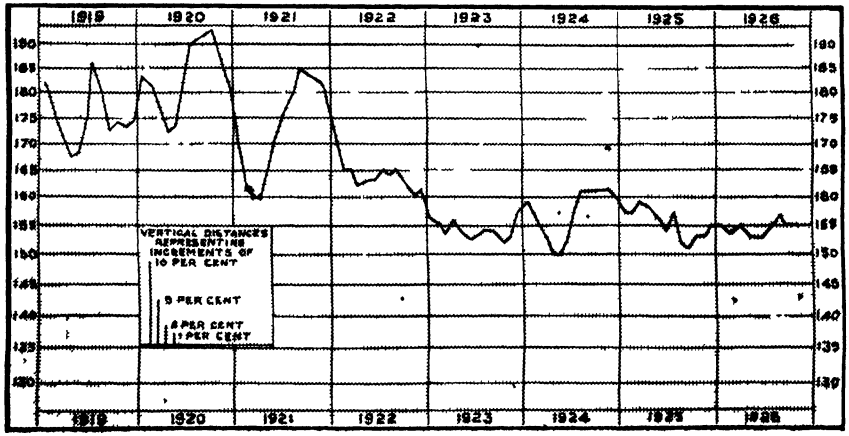
Articles	July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Nov 1926 over or below Oct 1926
Rice ..	100	135	134	— 1
Wheat ..	100	131	131	..
Jowari ..	100	133	129	— 4
Bajri ..	100	150	141	— 9
Gram ..	100	155	157	+ 2
Turdal ..	100	138	138	
Sugar (refined).	100	180	180	
Raw sugar (gul).	100	167	167	
Tea ..	100	197	197	
Salt ..	100	156	156	..
Beef ..	100	169	169	..
Mutton ..	100	171	169	— 2
Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Ghee ..	100	188	188	..
Potatoes ..	100	159	159	..
Onions ..	100	384	460	+ 76
Cocoanut oil ..	100	110	113	+ 3
All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	153	152	— 1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 25, Wheat 24, Jowari 22, Bajri 29, Gram 36, Turdal 28, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 41, Mutton 41, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 37, Onions 78, Cocoanut Oil 12.

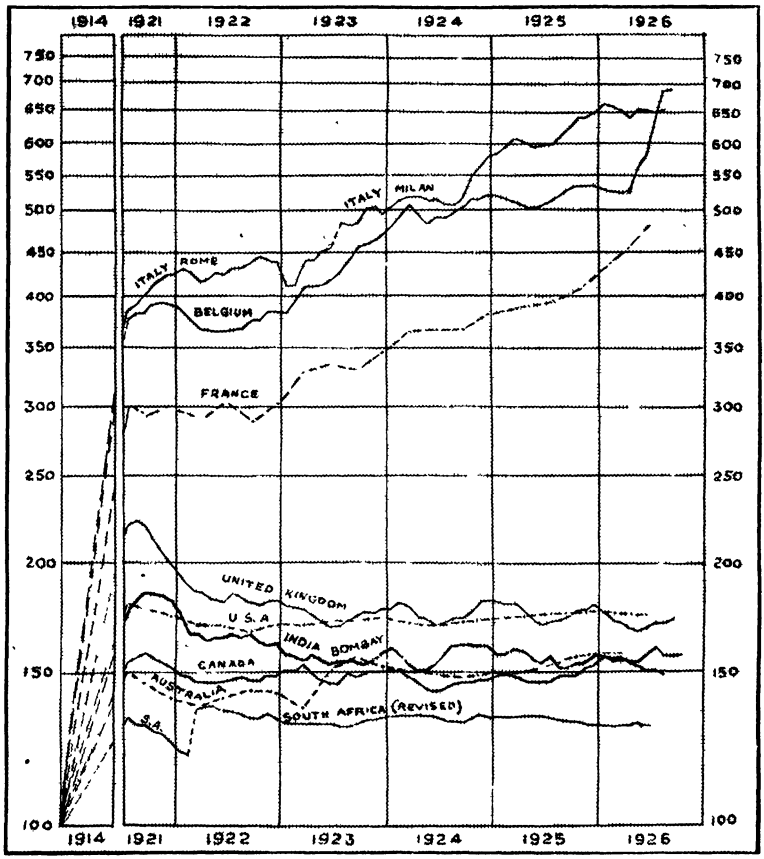
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 6 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos : (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922 and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working class only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of two points

In October 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 147 as against 149 in the previous month. As compared with September 1926, there was a fall of 5 points in the food group and of one point in the non-food group. The general index number was 116 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 16 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

There was a fall of 5 points in cereals and of one point in pulses which led to a fall of 5 points in the index for food grains. All the food grains except wheat and turdal declined in price, there being a fall of 2 points each in rice and gram, of 24 points in jowari, of 3 points in barley and of 7 points in bajri. Wheat advanced by 2 points while turdal remained stationary during the month.

The " other food " index fell by 2 points due to a decrease of 5 points in turmeric. Sugar (Java white) showed a rise of 3 points but gul was cheaper by 8 points.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds and Cotton Manufactures declined by 8 points each while Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles advanced by 1 point each. Metals and Hides and skins recorded increases of 2 and 13 points respectively. The non-food index fell by one point to 149.

The sub-joined table compares October 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1925*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Sept 1926	+ or − % compared with Oct 1925	Groups	Oct 1925	Jan 1926	Apr 1926	July 1926	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	− 3	− 1	1. Cereals ..	99	99	97	98	101	97
2. Pulses ..	2	− 1	+16	2. Pulses ..	104	111	111	120	121	121
3. Sugar ..	3	− 8	− 5	3. Sugar ..	92	90	91	87	95	87
4. Other food ..	3	− 1	−18	4. Other food ..	92	89	80	76	76	75
All food ..	15	− 3	− 4	All food ..	96	96	93	92	95	92
5. Oilseeds ..	4	− 6	+ 2	5. Oilseeds ..	94	92	95	101	101	96
6. Raw cotton ..	5	..	−22	6. Raw cotton ..	101	81	73	76	79	79
7 Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 5	−19	7. Cotton manufactures ..	98	90	88	87	84	80
8. Other textiles.	2	+ 1	−12	8. Other textiles.	99	97	93	84	86	87
9. Hides and skins	3	+10	− 3	9. Hides & skins.	103	106	117	101	92	101
10. Metals ..	5	+ 1	− 4	10. Metals ..	98	96	96	96	93	94
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 1	− 4	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	100	95	94	96	96
All non-food ..	29	− 1	− 9	All non-food ..	98	94	93	91	90	89
General Index No...	44	− 1	− 7	General Index No.	97	94	93	91	91	90

*Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 280.

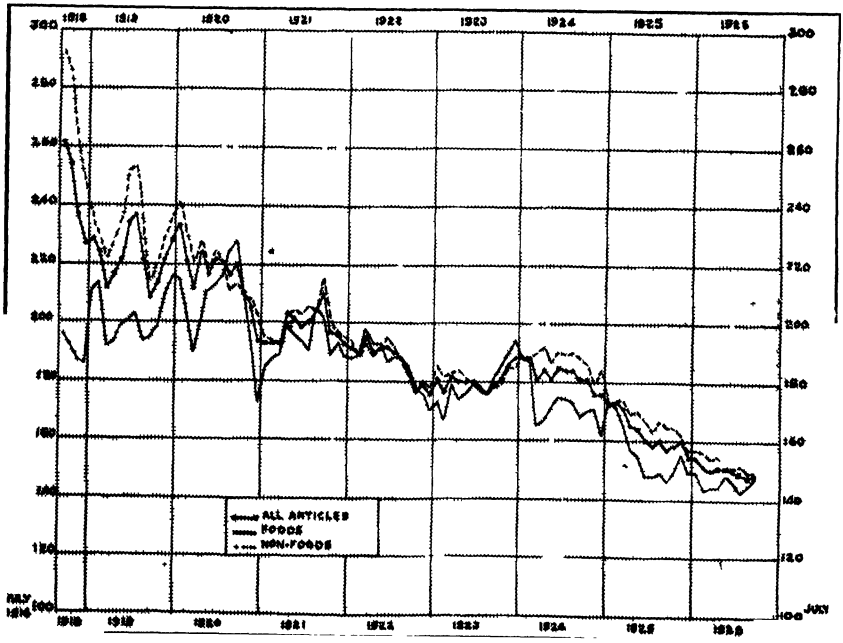
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
Ten-monthly „ 1926 .	145	153	150

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

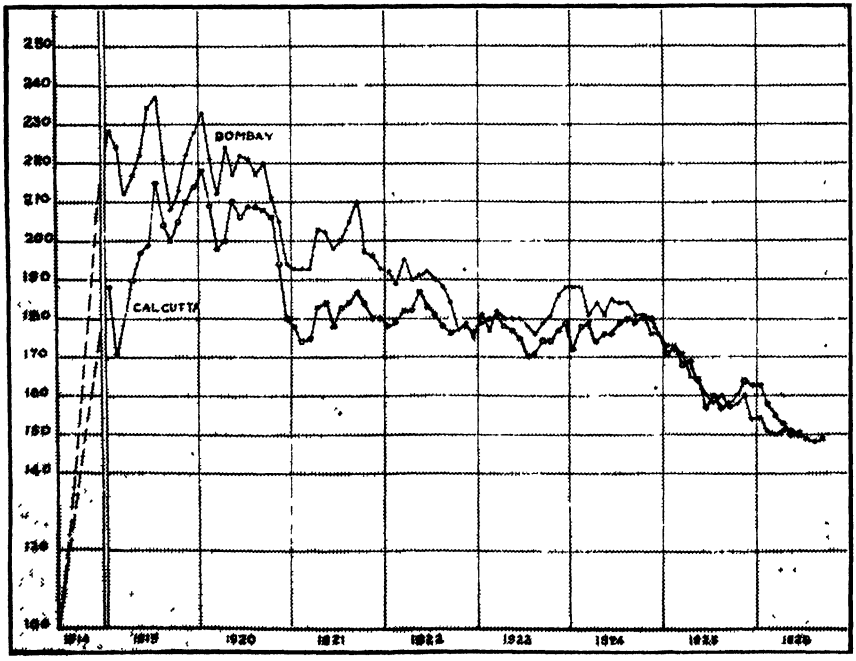


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

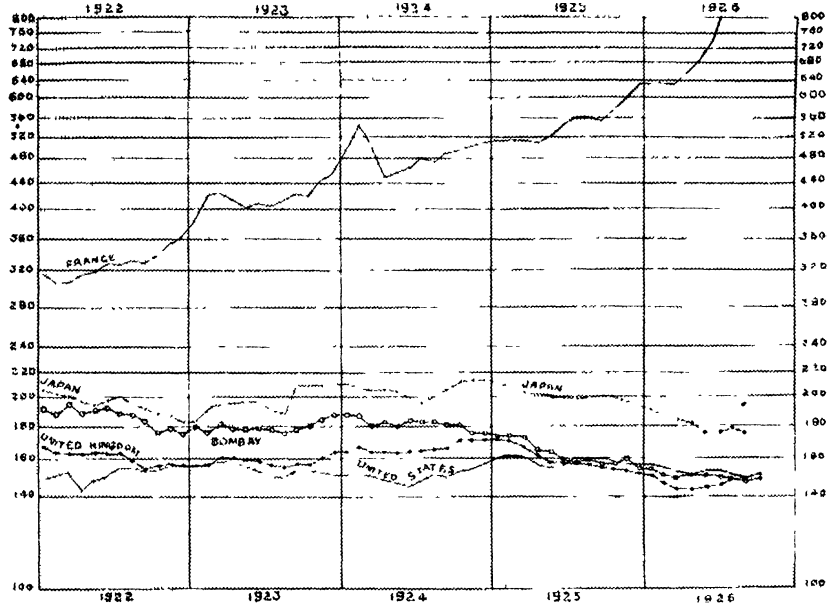
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 and 1924 and during 1925 the two curves temporarily crossed.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The basis are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " The Statist."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 14 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times* and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Sept. 1926	Oct. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Oct. 1926 over or below	
							July 1914	Sept. 1926
				As. p	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill .	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2	...
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 7	7 6	+ 1 8	— 0 1
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 7	5 8	+ 1 5	+ 0 1
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 10	6 9	+ 2 2	— 0 1
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 2	6 5	+ 2 1	+ 0 3
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 1	8 3	+ 2 4	+ 0 2
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer	28	1 1	2 0	1 11	+ 0 10	— 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	,,	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 1	15 4	+ 7 6	+ 0 3
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+ 1 2	
Beef ..		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	
Mutton ..		,,	39	3 0	5 4	5 7	+ 2 7	+ 0 3
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,,	28	7 1	13 2	13 4	+ 6 3	+ 0 2
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,,	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,,	28	0 3	0 9	0 10	+ 0 7	+ 0 1
Cocoanut oil	Middle quality ..	,,	28	3 7	4 0	3 11	+ 0 4	— 0 1

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during October 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains the prices of jowari, turdal and gram rose by 1, 2 and 3 pies respectively per paylee, wheat and bajri recorded a fall of 1 pie each per paylee whilst the price of rice showed no change. Among other food articles tea and mutton advanced each by 3 pies per lb., onions and ghee by 1 and 2 pies respectively per seer while sugar (refined) and cocoanut oil each fell by 1 pie per seer. The other articles remained practically unchanged during the month.

As compared with July 1914 all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 233 per cent. above their pre-war level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent. and gul, salt and beef by more than 60 per cent. The rise in the prices of food-grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 9 per cent. above its pre-war level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in September and October 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in September and October 1926 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in September 1926 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in October 1926 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	118	118	112	116	Rice ..	100	113	118	112	116
Wheat ..	100	82	98	91	108	Wheat ..	100	78	99	96	109
Jowari ..	100	84	94	62	96	Jowari ..	100	85	92	62	98
Bajri ..	100	104	102	75	95	Bajri ..	100	95	103	81	99
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	97	103	85	104	Cereals ..	100	93	103	88	106
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	84	89	88	88	Gram ..	100	83	86	84	89
Turdal ..	100	102	126	93	112	Turdal ..	100	104	124	98	110
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	93	108	91	100	Pulses ..	100	94	105	91	100
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	83	93	93	91	Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	93	97	95
Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	74	Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	69
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	109	Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107
Salt ..	100	75	69	105	86	Salt ..	100	67	69	108	86
Beef ..	100	103	69	57	69	Beef ..	100	103	65	57	69
Mutton ..	100	92	92	92	101	Mutton ..	100	88	88	88	96
Milk ..	100	47	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	51	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	82	76	76	90	Ghee ..	100	78	75	75	88
Potatoes ..	100	79	112	112	103	Potatoes ..	100	104	102	93	79
Onions ..	100	58	57	62	60	Onions ..	100	57	56	67	47
Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	Cocoa nut oil.	100	92	114	114	100
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	81	85	88	87	Other articles of food ..	100	83	83	87	83
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**86**	**92**	**88**	**92**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**86**	**90**	**88**	**90**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month the relative average for all food articles remained steady at Karachi and Sholapur while it fell by 2 points each at Ahmedabad and Poona. Referring back to October 1925 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles declined at all the four centres, there being a drop of 6 points at Karachi, 8 points at Ahmedabad, 5 points at Sholapur and 2 points at Poona.

Of individual articles the price of rice declined at Karachi and that of gul at Poona while both were stationary at the other centres. Tea, mutton, and ghee were lower at all the four centres. Milk remained steady except at Karachi. Potatoes, gram and onions increased at Karachi, Poona, and Sholapur respectively whilst all of them declined at the other centres. Wheat and bajri increased except at Karachi. Sugar was steady at Ahmedabad but advanced at the remaining centres. Jowari advanced at Karachi and Poona, fell at Ahmedabad and remained steady at Sholapur.

European Cost of Living Index—Oct. 1926

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Average increase over July 1914 .. { **All items** .. **58 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **71 per cent.**

A description of the scope and method of construction of the index relating to families living in Bombay in European style was published on pages 13-15 of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1924. Certain changes which were subsequently carried out were described on page 10 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1924. In computing the index number from October 1924 it was found necessary to utilize a new source of information for certain price quotations as the old firm could not furnish comparable data. Care has however been taken to see that the quotations obtained from the new firm are comparable with those of the old one.

The items shown in the tables now presented are samples of articles and services. The prices in the prices columns are quoted for the " Unit of Quantity " in column two. The prices are then multiplied by the figures in column three " Annual number or quantity required " in order to give to the various articles their relative importance. The resulting expenditure figures for the sample articles are shown in the last three columns. The group and general index numbers are the index numbers of the figures in the last three columns, and are not simple index numbers of the simple prices.

It is important to emphasize that the figures presented are not intended to be a complete budget. They are merely samples of articles and services, selected mainly because it was possible to get information for their price movements. The idea underlying the whole enquiry is that these samples are fair samples, and that the index number obtained from them would approximate to the index number which would be obtained on any given individual budget, were it possible to ascertain the past and present prices of every particular article or service appearing in that budget.

The newspaper criticism on the index previously published attacked especially the rates for " Servants' wages " and " Rents." These two items were made the subject of special enquiries. The changes with regard to " Servants' wages " referred to in the November 1924 issue of the *Labour Gazette* have been carried out and the index numbers since January 1924 have been changed. In regard to " Rents " no change seems to be necessary before the 1924-25 data are collected from the Municipal Assessment Ledgers.

It is necessary again to emphasize that the index is only applicable to cases where the standard of living remains unaltered. As a matter of fact the standard of living does not remain unaltered, but normally moves upward in all strata of society. This movement is probably not measurable in arithmetic terms, but allowance should be made for it by persons using the index. It is also necessary to remark that the effect of any deterioration or improvement in quality and durability of the same article for different years cannot be shown. For example, shoes may possibly last a shorter time now than the same trade variety of shoe lasted in 1914. On the other hand tyres possibly last longer. Changes of quality would however affect mainly the factor " Annual number or quantity required"

and their effect on the index number would be small, especially if some changes are in one direction and others in the opposite direction.

As compared with July 1926, the general index number in October 1926 showed a fall of one point. The general index number is the same as in October 1925.

Group Fluctuations

The main changes by groups are shown in the table below (100 = the level in July 1914).

Group or item	Month and Year			
	October 1920	October 1925	July 1926	October 1926
I. Food—				
Bazaar	204	168	172	172
Stores	216	168	171	168
All food ..	207	168	172	171
II. Fuel and lighting	159	117	112	115
III. Clothing	249	158	161	160
IV. House-rent	132	163	163	163
V. Miscellaneous—				
Servants	140	164	184	184
Conveyance	157	145	139	134
School-fees, etc...	116	128	130	130
Passages	123	162	173	173
Income-tax	200	200	200	200
Household necessaries	168	136	136	128
Others	220	211	194	194
All miscellaneous ..	144	158	158	157
General Index No. ..	**157**	**158**	**159**	**158**

It will be seen that as compared with July 1926 the food index declined by one point mainly due to a fall of 3 points in "food stores." There was a rise in the price of beef, kidneys, suet, and onions but chickens, eggs, tomatoes and oats recorded a fall. The fuel and lighting group went up by 3 points as a result of an increase in the prices of coal and kerosene oil. The index number for clothing was lower by one point during the quarter under review. Further decreases in the price of tyres and inner tubes resulted in bringing down the "conveyance" index by 5 points. Household necessaries decreased by 8 points whilst the other sub-groups showed no change. The index for the miscellaneous group was 157 as against 158 in July 1926.

General Index Numbers

The following are the general index numbers for certain months in the years 1920, 1923 1924, 1925 and 1926 :—

July 1914 = 100

Month and Year	Index No.	Month and Year	Index No.
October 1920	157	October 1925	158
October 1923	164	January 1926	158
October 1924	162	April 1926	158
April 1925	162	July 1926	159
July 1925	160	October 1926	158

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price × Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	July 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926
Food-Bazaar			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Meat—								
Beef (selected) ..	Pound ..	132	0·250	0·406	0·438	33·00	53·59	57·82
Beef (for soup and stewing) ..	,, ..	720	0·125	0·141	0·172	90·00	101·52	123·84
Mutton ..	,, ..	192	0·250	0·469	0·469	48·00	90·05	90·05
Kidneys ..	Each ..	96	0·047	0·063	0·073	4·51	6·05	7·01
Suet	Pound ..	36	0·313	0·406	0·438	11·27	14·62	15·77
Poultry—								
Chickens ..	Each ..	48	0·375	0·688	0 625	18·00	33·02	30·00
Fowls	,, ..	24	1·000	1·375	1 375	24·00	33·00	33·00
Eggs	Dozen ..	360	0·375	0·656	0·594	135·00	236·16	213·84
Dairy—								
Milk	Seer ..	900	0 250	0·500	0·500	225·00	450·00	450·00
Butter	Pound ..	96	0·750	1·250	1·250	72·00	120·00	120·00
Bread . ..	,, ..	360	0·094	0 156	0 156	33·84	56 16	56·16
Vegetables—								
Potatoes ..	Seer ..	360	0·063	0·109	0·109	22·68	39·24	39·24
Onions ..	,, ..	120	0·021	0·042	0·063	2·52	5·04	7·56
Tomatoes ..	,, ..	60	0·094	0·203	0·109	5·64	12·18	6·54
Fruit—								
Bananas ..	Dozen ..	24	0·188	0·313	0·313	4·51	7·51	7·51
Total ..	..	..	..		..	729·97	1,258 14	1,258·34
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*172*	*172*
Food-Stores—								
Coffee	Pound .	12	1·625	1·750	1 750	19 50	21·00	21·00
Tea	,, .	12	0·938	1·875	1·875	11 26	22·50	22·50
Rice	,, ..	36	0·313	0 375	0·375	11·27	13·50	13·50
Flour	7 lb tin ..	6	1·000	1·750	1·750	6·00	10·50	10·50
Sugar	Pound ..	240	0·125	0·250	0·250	30·00	60·00	60·00
Salt	2½ lb. ..	4	0·438	1·000	1·000	1·75	4·00	4·00
Cheese.. ..	Pound ..	24	1·000	2·000	2·000	24·00	48·00	48·00
Jam	,, ..	48	0·438	1·000	1 000	21·02	48·00	48·00
Sauce	½ Bottle ..	12	1·625	1·750	1·750	19·50	21·00	21·00
Biscuits ..	2 lb. tin ..	12	1·438	2 875	2·875	17·26	34·50	34·50
Oats	,, ..	24	0·625	0·875	0·813	15·00	21·00	19·51
Soda-water ..	dozen ..	96	0·375	0 938	0·938	36·00	90 05	90·05
Cigarettes ..	50 ..	72	1·250	1·875	1·750	90·00	135·00	126·00
Cheroots ..	50 ..	12	1·500	1·625	1·625	18·00	19·50	19·50
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	320 56	548·55	538·06
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*171*	*168*
All-Food Total ..	..	..	..		.	1,050 53	1,806 69	1,796·40
Index No. ..	..	..	..		.	*100*	*172*	*171*
Fuel and lighting—								
Coal	Ton ..	12	18·000	21·000	22·000	216·00	252·00	264·00
Electricity ..	Unit ..	768	0·250	0·250	0·250	192·00	192·00	192·00
Matches ..	Dozen ..	36	0·094	0·250	0·250	3·38	9·00	9·00
Kerosene oil ..	Tin ..	6	2·185	3·688	3·703	13·11	22·13	22·22
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	424 49	475·13	487·22
Index No. ..	..	..	..	.	..	*100*	*112*	*115*
Clothing Men—								
Shirts	Each ..	1 dozen ..	3·000	4·500	4·500	36·00	54·00	54·00
Vests	,, ..	½ ,, ..	1·375	2·750	2·875	8·25	16 50	17·25
Socks	Pair ..	9 .	2·500	3·500	3·583	22·50	31·50	32·25
Collars (stiff, white 4 fold) ..	Dozen ..	1 ..	7·500	12·500	12·500	7·50	12·50	12·50
Collars (soft white)	,, ..	1 ..	7·500	12·500	12·500	7·50	12·50	12·50
Cotton suit ..	Each ..	½ dozen	15·000	35·000	32·500	90·00	210·00	195·00
Coat, Sports ..	,, ..	⅓ ..	35·000	39·500	39·500	23·33	26·33	26·33
Pyjamas, Suits ..	Pair ..	4 .	15·000	27·000	27·000	60·00	108·00	108·00
Hats	Each ..	1	12·500	15·500	15·500	12·50	15·50	15·50
Shoes	Pair .	1 ..	18·000	38·000	38·000	18·00	38·00	38·00
Lounge suit ..	Each ..	½ .	65·000	110·000	110·000	32·50	55·00	55·00
Rain coat ..	,, ..	⅙ ..	65·000	97·500	97·500	13·00	19·50	19·50
Ties	,, ..	4 ..	2·750	4·375	4·583	11 00	17·50	18·33
Total ..	..	..	..	.	..	342·08	616·83	604·16
Index No. ..	..	..	..	.	..	*100*	*180*	*177*

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—*contd.*

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price / Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926	July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926
Clothing—women and children—			Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
Muslins	Yard	12 yards.	0·750	1·000	1·000	9·00	12·00	12·00
Prints	,,	12 ,,	0·625	1·500	1·500	7·50	18·00	18·00
Satin	,,	3 ,,	7·500	13·750	13·500	22·50	41·25	40·50
Silk for dresses	,,	12 ,,	5·500	5·250	5·250	66·00	63·00	63·00
Crepe de Chene	,,	12 ,,	4·500	7·500	7·500	54·00	90·00	90·00
Ribbon, Satin	,,	18 ,,	0·375	0·375	0·375	6·75	6·75	6·75
Stockings	pair	9 pairs.	10·500	13 000	14·000	94·50	117·00	126·00
Vests	vest	4	7·500	10 500	10·500	30·00	42·00	42·00
Shoes, walking	pair	2 pairs.	14·000	27·500	27·500	28·00	55·00	55·00
Total						318·25	445·00	453 25
Index No.						*100*	*140*	*142*
All-clothing Total						660·33	1,061·83	1,057·41
Index No.						*100*	*161*	*160*
House-rent	Per month	12 months	150·000	244·500	244 500	1,800·00	2,934·00	2,934 00
Index No.						*100*	*163*	*163*
Miscellaneous.								
Servants—								
Butler		1	19·880	36·970	36·970	238·56	443·64	443·64
Cook		1	22·700	38·300	38·300	272·40	459·60	459·60
Hamal		1	15·900	27·300	27·300	190·80	327·60	327·60
Ayah		1	17·400	38·300	38·300	208·80	459 60	459·60
Dhobi		1	13·800	23 800	23·800	165·60	285·60	285·60
Total						1,076·16	1,976·04	1,976·04
Index No.						*100*	*184*	*184*
Conveyance—								
Chauffeur		1	45·000	82·000	82·000	540·00	984 00	984·00
Petrol	Gallon	360	0·937	1·344	1·281	337·50	483·84	461 16
Oil	,,	12	3·500	4·750	4·750	42·00	57·00	57·00
Tyres	Set of 4 covers.	1	272·000	189·000	156·000	272 00	189·00	156·00
Inner tubes	Set of 4	1	67·000	38·000	33·000	67·00	38·00	33·00
Total						1,258·50	1,751·84	1,691·16
Index No						*100*	*139*	*134*
School fees			124·531	161·678	161·678	1,494 37	1,940·14	1,940·14
Passages	One return passage	3	1,136 500	1,970·250	1,972·688	759·00	1,313·50	1,315·13
Income-tax	Per month	12 months	55·000	110 000	110·000	660·00	1,320·00	1,320·00
House-hold necessaries								
Forks, table	Dozen	1/2	27·500	43·000	43·000	4·13	6·45	6·45
Spoons, table	,,	1/2	27·500	43·000	43·000	1·37	2·15	2·15
Knives, table	,,	1/2	19·500	45·000	45·000	5·85	13·50	13·50
Tumblers, ½ pint	,,	1/2	5·000	9·750	9·750	2·50	4·88	4·88
Tea-set	Set of 40 pieces	1/8	29·000	52·750	52·750	4·83	8·79	8·79
Dinner-service	Set of 93 pieces	1/8	91·000	124·000	124·000	9·10	12·40	12·40
Towels	Pair	12	5 000	8·500	8·500	60·00	102·00	102·00
Sheets	,,	6	18·500	20·000	17·500	111·00	120·00	105·00
Total						198·78	270·17	255·17
Index No						*100*	*136*	*128*
Others—								
Stationery	5 quires (paper).	4	0·563	1 000	1·000	2·25	4·00	4·00
Medicine	Month	12 months	8·625	16 750	16·750	103·50	201·00	201·00
Total						105·75	205·00	205·00
Index No.						*100*	*194*	*194*
Miscellaneous Total						5,552·56	8,776·69	8,702·64
Index No.						*100*	*158*	*157*
All items Total						**9,487·91**	**15,054·34**	**14,977·67**
General Index No.						**100**	**159**	**158**

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in September .. 7 Workpeople involved .. 6120

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during October 1926, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in October 1926.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in October 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Oct 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Oct 1926
	Started before 1st Oct	Started in Oct	Total		
Textile		7	7	6,120	14,358
Transport					
Engineering					
Metal					
Miscellaneous					
Total ..		7	7	6,120	14,358

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was seven all of which occurred in cotton mills, one in Ahmedabad and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in all these seven disputes was 6120 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 14,358.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, June to October 1926

—	June 1926	July 1926	August 1926	Sept 1926	October 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	9	4	7	3	7
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	2*	2			
Fresh disputes begun ..	7	2	7	3	7
Disputes ended ..	7	4	7	3	7
Disputes in progress at end.	2				
Number of workpeople involved ..	1,281	384	6,900	3,778	6,120
Aggregate duration in working days ..	1,752	661	22,457	3,558	14,358
Demands—					
Pay ..	3	2	4	2	4
Bonus ..					
Personal ..	4	1	2	1	3
Leave and hours ..					..
Others ..	2	1	1		
Results—					
In favour of employees.					1
Compromised ..		..	1		
In favour of employers..	7	4	6	3	6

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

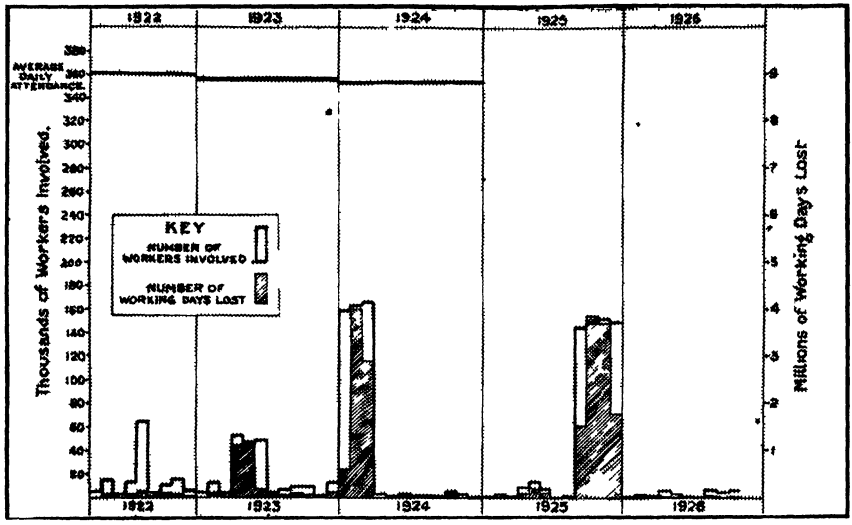
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
November 1925	6	3,699,628	100	..	..
December „	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February „	5	5,817	75	25	..
March „	9	3,161	67	22	11
April „	3	13,088	67	33	..
May „ . ..	4	7,733	100	.	..
June „	9	1,752	100	..	..
July „	4*	661	100	.	..
August „	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „	3	3,558	100	..	..
October „	7	14,358	86	14	..
Summary for the above twelve months.	58	5,572,016	83	12	5

* Revised figures.

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

There were altogether seven industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency during the month of October 1926. All of them occurred in Cotton Mills, one in Ahmedabad and the rest in Bombay City. The total number of workers affected was 6120 and the time loss amounted 14,358 working days. All the disputes commenced and terminated during the month under review. Analysed by causes, it will be seen that four disputes arose over questions of " pay and allowances " while the remainder were due to " personal grievances." One strike ended in favour of the employees and the rest in favour of the employers.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

In the Kilachand Mills the rates of wages were stated to be higher than some of the other mills in the vicinity and were therefore reduced in September without protest from the workers. There was no trouble as a result of this until a certain baler returned from long leave and provoked the workers in his department to protest against the reduction. As a result of his instigation, 19 workers in the bundling and baling department struck work on the 11th October. On the 13th all the strikers resumed work unconditionally and the dispute ended in favour of the employers.

On the 17th October, 1558 weavers in the Spring Mills struck work as a protest against alleged ill-treatment by the weaving master. The agents

promised to look into the matter but the strikers demanded that they should put up a notice stating that their grievances would be considered and redressed. The management complied with their request but the strikers had already left the mill before the notice was put up. The spinning department was closed after the recess on the 18th on account of the strike. On the 19th all the strikers resumed work and the dispute ended in favour of the employees.

Four hundred and eighty-five weavers working in the Dinshaw Petit Mills struck work on the 18th October as their request for an increase in the rates of wages was refused by the management. On the 19th, 250 strikers returned to work unconditionally but 200 again went out on the 20th. The manager engaged 50 new hands and put up a notice informing the strikers that they would be dismissed if they did not resume work by the 22nd. By the 23rd 200 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the rest were dismissed. The manager engaged 150 new hands. The result of this strike was unfavourable to the employees.

On the 18th October, 200 weavers of the Ruby Mills, struck work demanding an increase in their rates of wages. This was refused and the weaving shed was closed till the 21st on account of the strike. The manager informed the strikers that they would be allowed to resume work only at the existing rates of wages. The dues of the strikers were paid on the 20th and 55 new hands were employed on the 21st. By the 25th 42 strikers returned to work unconditionally and 130 new hands were engaged while the services of the other strikers were dispensed with. The result of this strike was favourable to the employers.

Some of the weavers in the Kohinoor Mill complained to the assistant-manager that they did not get full wages for the month of September. They demanded more pay and alleged that there was a reduction in their wages. The manager tried to convince them that no reduction had been made but this did not satisfy the men and 800 weavers struck work on the 18th October. Two hundred resumed work on the next day but the mill was closed on the 20th and 21st on account of the strike. When the mill re-opened on the 22nd 475 more strikers resumed work unconditionally and the rest followed suit the next day. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

On the 30th October, 513 weavers in the New Kaiser-I-Hind Mill struck work in sympathy with a jobber who was dismissed on the ground of inefficient work. In the afternoon the manager warned the strikers that they would be dismissed if they did not resume work on Monday the 1st November. All the strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 1st November.

AHMEDABAD

In the Asarwa Mills, 125 weavers struck work on the 11th October in sympathy with a dismissed jobber and demanded his re-instatement. The manager refused to comply with their request and engaged new hands. This dispute terminated on the 14th October and the result was unfavourable to the employees.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th November 1926 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

"The situation regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at present in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

"*Gujarat.*—Since the submission of the last report there has been no rain anywhere in the division. The standing crops, however, are proceeding quite satisfactorily on the strength of the previous moisture and the situation is generally favourable in most of the division. The harvesting of *kharif* crops is proceeding briskly while the sowing of the late crops is progressing. A large area under *rabi* crops seems assured.

"*Konkan.*—Like Gujarat, the period under review has been practically rainless even in this division. The standing crops, however, are doing well as they have sufficient moisture left by the previous rains to fall back upon. The garden crops are in excellent condition generally. The early crops are being reaped and in some cases their harvesting is nearly finished.

"*Deccan.*—Some fairly good rain was received in parts of the Sholapur district, in the east of the Poona district and a few other places in the second week of November. This rain has proved very beneficial both for the withering crops and also to push on *rabi* sowings. The rain has not, however, been general and more rain is badly needed in places especially in the east to improve the conditions. The position in the west of the division is quite satisfactory.

"*Karnatak.*—The situation over a large part of this division is getting anxious and unless good and general rain is received soon, the position is likely to be aggravated. The standing crops are withering and *rabi* sowings checked over most of the Bijapur district and the eastern portions of Belgaum and Dharwar and more rain is urgently needed in these areas to save the situation. The position in the west of the division is generally satisfactory while the condition of the irrigated crops is good."

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

1. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of October 1926, in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. There occurred altogether 268 factory accidents in Bombay City during the month of October. Of these 2 proved fatal, 24 caused serious injuries and the rest were of a minor nature; 65 or 24 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 203 to other causes. The

largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 72 in workshops, 26·5 in textile mills and 1·5 in miscellaneous concerns.

Of 31 accidents which occurred in Ahmedabad during the month under review, 28 were in textile mills and 3 in match factories. Of the total, 21 or 68 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 10 or 32 per cent. to "other causes." Two of the accidents were fatal and the rest minor.

In Karachi, the total number of accidents was 8 of which 7 occurred in workshops and one in miscellaneous concerns. All the accidents were due to "other causes" and caused minor injuries.

In the "other centres" of the Presidency, the number of accidents was 56 out of which 18 occurred in textile mills, 30 in workshops and 8 in miscellaneous industries. Eighteen accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to "other causes." Three of the accidents were fatal, 10 serious and 43 minor.

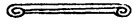
II. PROSECUTIONS

SURAT

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*h*) of the Factories Act, for not maintaining the register required by Section 35. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for employing women before the fixed hours *vide* Section 26. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of three cases and Rs. 10 in each of six cases. (Total fine being Rs. 105 for nine cases).

The occupier of the same factory was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 26 for that same offence. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of three cases and Rs. 10 in each of six cases. (Total fine being Rs. 105 for nine cases).



Employment Situation in October 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 117 or 79·05 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of October 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 117 returns amounted to 11·24 per cent. in October as against 10·99 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working in October 1926 78 or 97·50 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 12·25 per cent. in October as compared with 12·66 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 57 mills were working during the month. Information was supplied by 29 or 50·88 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 2·74 per cent. in October as against 3·14 per cent. in September. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

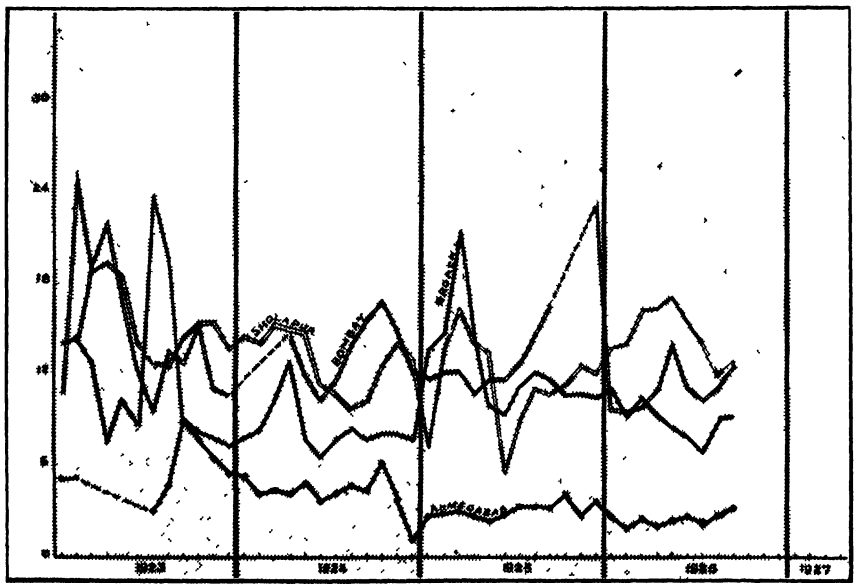
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 2·51 per cent.

Returns were submitted by all the 6 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 14·48.

Two out of the 3 mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 9·83 per cent. during the month under review as against 9·27 per cent. in the previous month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering Workshops was 13·10 per cent. during October as against 13·70 per cent. in the previous month. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 12·79 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 9·70 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1925*

The following is the text of the report submitted to Government by the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay, covering the year 1925.

" 2. In addition to the 2 applications for distribution that were pending from the previous year, 232 applications were filed and 3 received from other Commissioners during this year as against 65 filed in the previous year. Of these, 45 applications related to fatal accidents, 66 to permanent disablement, 9 to temporary disablement and 108 were for distribution of compensation deposited with the Commissioner under section 8, sub-clause 1. Besides this, 5 applications were for the recovery of compensation awarded and the remaining 4 were miscellaneous applications.

3. Of these 237 applications 3 were transferred under section 21 to the other Commissioners for disposal, 3 were received under the same Section from other Commissioners, 5 were withdrawn and 2 were summarily dismissed. In 141 applications the liability was admitted by the opposite party, 7 were allowed *ex-parte* and the remaining 60 were contested. Of these 60 applications, in 13, claims were allowed in full, in 33 they were allowed in part and 14 applications were dismissed. This left a balance of 19 applications still pending at the end of the year. The Court fee recovered on all these applications amounted to Rs. 495-4-0 as against Rs. 118 in the previous year. At the beginning of the year 1925, there was a balance of Rs. 6022-8-0 in respect of deposits made with the Commissioner. During the year under report, Rs. 109,427-7-2 were deposited of which Rs. 93,074 represented the amount of compensation to be paid to the dependants of workmen whose injuries resulted fatally and Rs. 16,353-7-2 represented the amount of compensation deposited under section 8, sub-clause 2, in respect of non-fatal accidents. During the year under report, Rs. 94,909-9-2 were paid out to various claimants—thus leaving a balance, in the hands of the Commissioner of Rs. 20,540-6-0 at the end of the year.

"4. In 3 of the 14 applications that were dismissed, the employers made *ex-gratia* payments to the injured workmen. Of the 33 applications that were allowed in part, 15 were left to the sole arbitration of the Commissioner as provided by Rule 35 of the Rules framed by the Government of India. During the year under report 4 deposits amounting to Rs. 2392-8-0 were returned to the employers under section 8 (sub-clause 4) as no dependants of the deceased workmen on whose account the deposits were made were forthcoming in spite of the notices put up and other enquiries made.

" 5. Memoranda of 3 agreements were pending for registration at the end of the previous year. During the year under report, 121 memoranda were received for registration. Of these 119 were for compensation in respect of permanent disablement, the remaining 5 being for commutation of half-monthly payments for temporary disablement. Of these agreements 112 were registered without any change, 2 were registered after

* Copies of the Report can be obtained from the Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery, Bombay.

certain modifications and one was not registered at all, as the amount proposed to be given was very inadequate, and the matter was argued before the Commissioner by both the parties and payment was made according to the order made by the Commissioner. At the end of the year 9 memoranda of agreements were pending for registration.

"6. During the year under report 289 persons were awarded compensation of whom 284 were adults and 5 minors. Out of the adults 118 were awarded compensation in respect of fatal accidents and the remaining for disablement either permanent or temporary. Of the 5 cases relating to minors, 1 was for fatal accident and the remaining 4 for permanent disablement.

"7. During the year under report, returns under section 16 were received from 155 employers. From these returns it will appear that 195,631 adults and 3347 minors were employed in Factories, 2458 adtults were employed in Mines, 4877 adults and 3 minors were employed in Tramways, 8319 adults in the Port Trust and 21,098 adults and 19 minors in all other concerns. The total number of accidents in all these concerns was 2300, of which 30 were fatal, 82 resulted in permanent disablement and 2188 in temporary disablement.

"8. With regard to returns under section 16, the Commissioner wishes to reiterate what he said in paragraph 12 of his report for the last year. No doubt, in their letter No. L.—1288, dated the 7th July 1925, the Government of India pointed out that under section 176 of the Indian Penal Code, employers who did not send returns as required by section 16 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, rendered themselves liable to be prosecuted, provided the omission to furnish these returns was intentional. It is, however, very difficult, if not impossible, to establish that the omission was intentional, as beyond the notification No. L—1189 dated the 26th June 1924, under section 16 which was published first in theGazette of the Government of India and which was republished in the Local Government Gazette of the 31st July 1924, nothing further seems to have been done to bring home to the employers the necessity of sending these returns.

"9. During the year under report, the Commissioner had invited on 3 occasions experts to assist him in holding enquiries as assessors.

"10. During the year under report, the Commissioner had occasions to go out for local inspection in about 60 cases and from experience he has discovered that facts which otherwise probably would never have come to light, not because of any deliberate attempt on the part of the employers to keep them back, but because they attached no importance to them, were noticed and were of great use in arriving at a correct conclusion. In one case however where the accident resulted in causing personal injury to a minor in a factory in West Khandesh, local inspection alone in the company of the Chief Inspector of Factories helped the Commissioner to unearth the facts about the employment of that minor. The minor was below the age of 12 years. As such he could never have been certified for employment by a certifying surgeon. His name, therefore, did not find a place on the Muster Roll of that factory. The visit to the factory, however, disclosed that employment of such minors was not uncommon in places which were far away from the district towns.

"11. During the year under report, in 2 cases the Commissioner found that his order for payment of compensation was of no use whatever to the unfortunate applicants for the simple reason that soon after notice of hearing of the application was served on the employers they took steps to file their schedule in Insolvency and that nothing could be recovered, so far as the Commissioner knows, from that source. The Commissioner therefore proposes that there should be some provision in the Act by which, in fit cases, the Commissioner could call upon the employer when notice of hearing is served on him to deposit a certain sum with him, or in the alternative, if that order is not obeyed, to empower the Commissioner to attach the property of the employer through the Collector of the District where he carries on his business as provided for under section 31 of the Act for the recovery of compensation awarded.

"12. The Commissioner thinks that the waiting period of ten days for which no compensation in cases of temporary disablement could be awarded is too large. From comparison of similar provisions in Workmen's Compensation Acts in other countries, the Commissioner thinks that the period might in the interest of the workmen be usefully curtailed to seven days. If that could be done, illiterate workmen who form the bulk of the labouring population in this Presidency might not resort to the really clumsy—although from their point of view clever—tactics to extend the period of the disablement to a fortnight, as they are found to do at present. The knowledge that compensation will be paid to them if the disablement lasts for a week might induce the workmen to pay greater attention to the injuries and they might be induced to follow the instructions of the employers with regard to the medical attention much more carefully.

"13. With regard to the number of accidents, although it appears to extend over a period of twelve months, it has to be noticed that during the last quarter of the year under report there was a general strike in the Town and Island of Bombay but for which the number of cases before the Commissioner would have increased by at least 50 if not more.

"14. Under section 24 of the Act the parties are allowed to be represented before the Commissioner either by a legal practitioner or other person authorised in writing by the parties. In this connection the Commissioner wishes to point out that so far as the employers are concerned there are two bodies that represent the bulk of the work in Bombay, *viz*,. (1) The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association, Limited, and (2) The Bombay Claims' Bureau. The Commissioner wishes to record his appreciation of the help he receives from these two agencies. Their attitude towards the unfortunate workmen is always very sympathetic and they are always willing to afford to the workmen every facility in the manner of investigation of the facts of accidents. Very often, their attitude helps to avoid a regular hearing in Court which of necessity means a costly affair. So far as the workmen are concerned in the Town and Island of Bombay the bulk of the work on their behalf is done by two agencies. They are the Bombay Claims and General Agency and the

Social Service League. These agencies devote a great deal of their time in ascertaining the circumstances under which the accident occurred ; thereby considerably facilitating the Commissioner's task of apportioning the ultimate liability. The only other agency that represents workmen exists in Ahmedabad, *viz.*, the Labour Union represented by a secretary and an assistant secretary. The Union represents the cases of nearly three-fourths of the unfortunate workmen who are the victims of accidents. Very often the suffering workman is not even a member of the Union.

" 15. Before concluding I wish to record my appreciation of the hard and satisfactory work done by my staff which consists of two clerks only."

In a resolution dealing with the report, the Government of Bombay says, "In the opinion of the Governor in Council the course proposed by the Commissioner in paragraph 11 of the report for the deposit of a certain sum with him by an employer when a notice of hearing is served on him or in the alternative to empower the Commissioner to attach the property of an employer is not feasible as such a method amounts to giving a workman creditor of a firm an advantage over all creditors.

" With regard to paragraph 12 of the report the Governor in Council does not consider that any useful purpose would be served by curtailing the waiting period from 10 to 7 days."

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during October 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

The present article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of October 1926. Information was received from all Commissioners in the Presidency except one. Out of a total number of 46 cases disposed of during the month as many as 40 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It may be noted here that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. No information was available regarding one case of original claim which was withdrawn. A gross amount of Rs. 15,955-15-0 was awarded as compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 10,768-5-0 awarded during the previous month and Rs. 19,347 in October 1925. Out of the 45 accidents for which compensation was paid, 14 were fatal, 30 of permanent partial disablement and one of permanent total disablement. The number of compensation cases was 26 in textile mills and 19 in other industries. The corresponding figures for October 1925 were 11 and 22. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation were males over 15 years of age in 43 cases, a female in one case and a male under 15 years in another. Out of a total number of 46 cases disposed of during the month under review, 25 were original claims, 20 registration of agreements and one for " reviews

and other miscellaneous applications." Compensation was awarded in 21 cases, one case was withdrawn, one was dismissed and 20 agreements were registered. Simple distribution was effected in two cases and recovery of compensation was awarded in one case.

Welfare Work for Mill Operatives in Bombay

THE SHARE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In the north end of Bombay City, right in the neighbourhood of the cotton mills, the industrial workers are gathered in the largest numbers, living in one-room tenements, huddled and crowded, restless and careless. Many of them render their quarters smoky and almost unlivable, dirty and dark, however hygienic they might have been at first. It is here that they spend their leisure time, when they should be recuperating for their daily toil.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Bombay in its desire to help men and boys of this metropolis, see in this unhappy situation an opportunity for real service for the betterment of these needy and ignorant people.

Social welfare work was begun by the Association in March 1925 at Naigaon where the cement chawls erected by the Bombay Development Department have accommodation for 16,000 people. Mills are also near-by with their chawls for workers. A small piece of land was leased from the Improvement Trust and in June 1926 a hut was built and equipped as a centre for the various forms of social welfare work. Secretaries have been employed to direct the activities, one of whom is secured and supported by funds from America and the other, a Marathi-speaking Indian graduate, is paid by the local Association.

It should be noticed that the Association has been carrying on welfare work during the past five years at Nagpur among the employees of the Empress Mills and also in other parts of India, while in England and America it has had extensive experience in similar social service. With its programme of community uplift through education, recreation and other activities, the Young Men's Christian Association has enjoyed considerable success.

The Association's purpose is to render service, without distinction of caste, creed or class, to the whole community during the "off hours" and it has in view the correlating of the great philanthropic resources of Bombay city for service to the mill workers' community.

The following programme will give an idea of the scope of the work done at present in Bombay by the Association.

Programme

Play for men and boys—5-30 p.m. till dark each evening, except Sunday.
School—7-30 till 9 each evening, except Saturday and Sunday.
Reading Room—Open each evening.
Indoor Games—Each evening.
Boy Scouts—Wednesdays, 7 to 7-30, and Saturdays, 7-30 to 8-30.

Boys' Clubs—Led by volunteers, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 6 to 7. Excursions, lantern lectures, entertainments on occasions.

Sewing classes and play for girls—Each evening, 5-15 to 6-30, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Meetings for various groups.—Sundays, especially for Christians.

The Night School has been a steady success from its beginning in April 1925. The attendance has ranged from 55 at the first to over 70 recently. Most of the students have been working boys and men. Six classes have been formed, meeting five times a week: two for studying Marathi, two for English and Marathi, one for Gujarathi and English and one for Urdu and English. Only elementary subjects are taught. The teachers are paid a small stipend. The rooms of the Municipal Primary Day School have been very generously loaned to the Association during the hours when the Day School is not in session.

The social service began by bringing all sorts of people together to play. Football and cricket games have been organized. Playing with the volley ball, vage ball, " Atyapatya," cricle games or a rope pull engage a number of boys and young men each evening, except Sunday. During fair weather three or four groups, each of twenty or thirty, take part. Volunteers from the Wilson College and other places and ladies from cultured homes—Hindu, Parsee, Mahomedan, Christian—are aiding the play director in this activity among the children.

A troop of Boy Scouts has been started with the help of a volunteer leader. Lantern lectures have been given occasionally with an attendance from 100 to 200 each evening. Entertainments by gramophone and by *bhajans* (sacred songs) have been held. Training for dramatic performance has been carried on, and a reading-room has been started, while indoor games are enjoyed each evening.

In the future, as resources may permit, it is hoped to develop the activity already started and to undertake a more comprehensive programme of work. The Young Men's Christian Association propose to start a library in connection with the reading-room, to promote cinema, musical and other entertainments and an *Akhada* (Indian gymnasium). It hopes to establish co-operative societies, temperance, health and thrift propaganda, a carpentry class and some sort of combination of economic advantage and recreation during leisure hours, such as gardening, goat-keeping and poultry raising. The Association will endeavour, if support can be found, to provide technical and general education through weekly or monthly publications in the vernaculars conveying concrete and simple ideas. The health and insanitary ways of the people in the chawls needs much attention and it may be the privilege of the Association to take a part in this by education, stimulation and personal influence.

Any opportunity of service to these needy people that brings them moral, mental or physical or social benefits will be welcomed and undertaken as far as means permit. But above all, the crying need is for co-operation from Bombay citizens who will give themselves to helping in real friendship the hundreds of the working classes who are less fortunate socially than they are. (*From "Indian Textile Journal," Bombay, October 1926.*)

Labour News from Ahmedabad

The Millowners' Association.—The annual general meeting of the Millowners' Association was held on the 21st of October 1926 when the President, Sheth Chamanlal G. Parekh, presided. In the course of his speech the President remarked that the system in Ahmedabad of starting mills with a small capital had created the anomaly of showing high dividends in some old mills and so the picture was not presented in its true colours. A statement prepared by him shows that the average percentage of net profit in about fifty mills in Ahmedabad was 30 in 1921, 16 in 1922, 3 in 1923, 4 in 1924 and 5 in 1925. The low percentage for 1923 is said to be due to the strike that lasted for more than two months in that year. Referring to labour he said, " Our connections with labour throughout the year were harmonious and satisfactory and we trust mutual co-operation and good-will will preserve the peace so necessary for the smooth working of our industry."

The Labour Union.—The annual general meeting of the Council of Representatives of the Labour Union was held on the 24th October 1926 at Satyagraha Ashram when Mr. M. K. Gandhi presided. The Secretary read the annual report for the year 1925. In the report it was stated that no new activities were taken on hand during 1925 but the activities commenced in 1924 were placed on a stronger footing. At the beginning of the year the membership was 14,000, but after a decrease in the middle it increased to 16,000 at the end of the year. Commenting on the fluctuating membership the Secretary regretted that some of the mills far from sympathizing with the activities of the Union as recommended by the Panch, placed difficulties in its way at every step. He was, however, glad to say that the relations between the Union and the mills were on the whole good. He further gave detailed information about the different activities of the Union. During the year there were 50 meetings of the Council of Representatives and on an average rather more than 70 per cent. of the Committee members attended them. There were 138 meetings held in the mills for different purposes. Of the complaints dealt with during the year, 58 were cancelled as false, improper or insignificant, 573 were settled satisfactorily, 34 were compromised, 16 were unsuccessful and 48 were omitted for other reasons. The appointment of joint committees of mills and the Labour Union was recommended for the early settlement of disputes. As regards strikes it was stated that many were due to the appointment and dismissal of jobbers and mukadams and that most of the strikes could be averted by introducing a better system of recruitment of labour. The Secretary condemned the unauthorized strikes of Union members. As regards the benefits resulting from the Union it was stated that during the year the beds available in the Union hospital were increased from 20 to 30 and that the Union dispensaries were becoming more and more popular. There were 9 day schools and 15 night schools run by the Union. The number of pupils was 1286. The Industrial situation during 1925 was said to be slightly better than during 1924. The Union had collected about 1000 family budgets. The Secretary then dealt with welfare work conducted

by mills and the general conditions of life of the labourers. He concluded with an exhortation to labour to organize themselves strongly and to remove their evil habits.

After the report had been read one member enquired whether there was no room for economy in the expenditure of the Union and whether all the expenditure incurred had been in accordance with the directions of the Council of Representatives. After these points were explained by the Secretary the President delivered his message. He emphasized the necessity of spending money on things that would improve their moral calibre and physical well-being, and asked them to depend on their soul-force for getting their demands granted and to look upon their Union as their Swaraj. He said that they would get all they desired if they did not shirk their duty and took as much interest in their work as if the mills were their own.

The Sanitary Association.—The annual general meeting of the Sanitary Association was held on the 24th October 1926. The important activities of the Association were as follows :—The Baby Week and the Health Exhibition accompanied by the Health Workers' Conference were held in February 1925. About 60 magic lantern lectures were arranged in various parts of the city. The lantern slides on maternity and child welfare, tuberculosis, water-borne diseases, malaria and temperance were highly appreciated by the public. On receipt of complaints from various quarters about the sale of inferior kinds of aerated waters an investigation was made of the aerated water factories in the city. An enquiry was conducted into the condition of tea-shops in mill areas and the Collector was moved by the Association to take action to improve the deplorable state of affairs. The Collector interfered and some improvements were carried out. The usual monthly sanitary rounds were conducted and several prominent citizens took part in them. The investigation of the housing condition of manual labourers was continued. The health visitor of the Association went round the city daily and drew the attention of the Municipality to matters requiring immediate attention at the hands of the sanitary staff. At the request of the Secretary of the Labour Union the Municipality was addressed and suggestions made for stopping the dust nuisance in the mill areas.

Middle Class Unemployment in the Bombay Presidency

The Labour Office is sending out the following circular letter to various bodies and persons in the Bombay Presidency :—

LABOUR OFFICE,
SECRETARIAT, BOMBAY.

DEAR SIR,

You are no doubt aware that there has recently been in the public press and the central and the local legislatures a great deal of discussion on the question of middle-class unemployment. The extent to which this unfortunate condition of affairs prevails is however not known and

Government have instructed the Labour Office to conduct an enquiry into the problem of middle-class unemployment with a view to obtaining reliable data on which any future action that may be found necessary may be based.

2. The method to be adopted for the collection of information on this subject has required careful consideration owing to the difficulty of getting into touch with those who are unemployed. An attempt was made by the Labour Office last year by means of advertisements, etc., to obtain information but the results were disappointing and Government have come to the conclusion that the only way in which satisfactory data can be obtained is for the general public to co-operate with the Labour Office in the collection of information.

3. The following procedure has therefore been decided upon. The Labour Office has drawn up a schedule, copies of which will be circulated to the heads of Government and semi-government departments, private firms and educational institutions, etc., with a request that these schedules may be distributed among the members of their staff, who should be asked to get them filled up by unemployed persons known to them. The schedules when completed should be returned to the head of the office or college or school as the case may be, who will enclose them in an envelope specially supplied for this purpose and return them to the Labour Office.

4. The schedule has been drafted in such a manner as to procure all the information that is required and at the same time to cause the minimum of inconvenience to those who will fill it up. Every return made for the purposes of this enquiry will be treated as strictly confidential, and no data will be published that could enable the identity of any person to be guessed.

5. I am instructed to approach you in this connexion and to ask for your co-operation. I enclose herewith copies of the schedule for distribution among the members of your staff with a request that you will instruct them to get into touch with as many unemployed persons as possible and return the schedules to you on or before the 29th of November 1926. I would ask you to return them at once to the Labour Office.

6. The Labour Office will much appreciate your kind co-operation in this enquiry. If the method of the enquiry is not properly understood or if there is any difficulty in getting the schedules completed, will you let me know and I will send one of the officers of the Labour Office to call on you.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours very faithfully,

J. F. GENNINGS,

Director of Information and Labour Intelligence,
Officer in charge, Labour Office.

Specimen of the Schedule

"MIDDLE CLASS"* UNEMPLOYMENT

Form of Enquiry (to be filled in by the unemployed person).

NOTE :—The information supplied in this form will be regarded as *strictly confidential*. The Labour Office is only interested in tabulating the information. No names will be published.

1. Name in full
2. Address
3. Sex
4. Age
5. Religion and caste
6. Native place
7. Married, unmarried, widow or widower
8. Duration of unemployment (*a*)
9. Last position held, if any
10. Monthly salary earned when last employed
11. Cause of leaving last employment
12. Qualifications
13. Experience of work, if any
14. Number of dependents (*b*)
15. Means of livelihood during unemployment
16. Means adopted to secure employment (*c*)

* The term 'Middle Class' denotes persons engaged in, or qualified to engage in work other than manual labour.

(*a*) In the case of those who have never been employed the period of unemployment should be counted from the fifth month after the person has qualified himself or herself for a post, *i.e.*, when 4 months have elapsed since leaving school or college or any other institution imparting instruction.

(*b*) State relationships.

(*c*) *E.g.*, Personal calls, written applications, reply to or insertion of advertisements and the like.

Workmen's Compensation in Ireland

REPORT OF COMMITTEE : CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Departmental Committee on Workmen's Compensation appointed on the 28th May 1925, has now presented its report, which will be published by the Stationery Office at an early date.

In an introduction the report surveys the work of the Committee, and sets out its conclusions and recommendations. The remaining chapters reproduce the arguments extracted from evidence submitted, and show in detail the grounds on which conclusions are based.

Present System

The existing law comprises the British legislation in force at the time of the Treaty. Many witnesses criticised the system on the ground that it was moulded to meet the requirements of a highly organised industrial community, while the Saorstat is mainly an agricultural country.

The present Workmen's Compensation law imposes on employers liability for compensation in respect of industrial accident, without regard to the question of breach of duty or of contract on the part of the person causing the accident. This liability becomes in effect an overhead charge on the undertaking and creates a risk against which a prudent employer is almost compelled to insure.

Consideration is given in the report to the question of a State guarantee for the payment of compensation awarded. Various proposals for wider schemes of State or State-supervised insurance to include provision for these guarantees were put forward, but the Committee was unable to consider them owing to lack of statistics, indicating how far such intervention is necessary. It is recommended that this question should be examined when the necessary data are available, and that, meanwhile, for the greater security of the workman, priority be extended to the full amount of workmen's claims in the distribution of the assets of an uninsured bankrupt employer.

The law of compensation has developed entirely apart from that concerned with the prevention of industrial accidents, the latter being compromised in the various Factory and Workshop Acts. Except for these Acts and for voluntary effort, the only incentive to accident prevention in the Saorstat is an arrangement between insurance companies and the larger employers, which allows a reduction in premium to employers whose annual wage bill exceeds £10,000, if the experience of two or three years has been satisfactory. Organised voluntary effort is limited to the larger industrial concerns.

Notification

The obligation to notify accidents is at present limited to more serious accidents, *i.e.*, those causing loss of life, those caused by machinery, explosion, etc., or those which disable a workman for more than seven days. It is suggested that the law on this point should be amended on the lines of the British Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923, so that all fatal accidents and all those which disable a workman for more than four days should be notifiable. Further, it is recommended that factory legislation should

be extended to cover all places where workpeople are employed ; that first aid equipment should be installed in every factory ; and that there should be State encouragement for a " safety first " campaign.

Legislation in the Saorstat does not deal specifically with the restoration of an injured workman to his former earning capacity. The medical benefits of the National Health Insurance Acts were not applied to Ireland, and, apart from the provision for the sick poor under the Medical Charities Act, 1851, an injured workman has no statutory right to medical or surgical assistance. It was generally agreed in evidence that the absence of definite provision of this kind is a disadvantage to employer and to worker alike. The Committee was of opinion that a contributory scheme of medical benefit should be established under the National Health Insurance Acts ; that employers should provide for disabled workmen extra medical and surgical assistance, as required ; and that they should provide for the supply and renewal of artificial limbs when necessary. The establishment of a State-aided fund to assist the hospitals in such cases is also recommended.

Industrial Diseases

Compensation is payable at present in the event of death or incapacity caused by any one of twenty-five industrial diseases. As many of these result from employments which do not exist in this country, it is recommended that, as soon as statistics are available, the present list should be reviewed in the light of actual Saorstat conditions.

Non-manual and casual workers

The increased cost of living has caused hardship to many of the class at present excluded from the benefits of the Acts. Hence, it is proposed that non-manual workers whose remuneration does not exceed £350 per annum (instead of the present limit of £250) be included within their scope. Casual workers are now excluded if employed otherwise than for the purposes of the employer's trade or business. It is proposed that this limitation be abolished, provided that the casual worker is employed in or about the residence of his employer, or is casually employed for the purposes of a game or recreation and is engaged or paid through a club. This would extend the Act to such persons as window-cleaners, gardeners and golf-caddies, while excluding casual workers of the handbag carrier type. The inclusion of certain employees on ships and of fishermen paid by shares in the earnings of a vessel—both of whom are at present excluded—should follow an enquiry as to whether such provision is desirable. Certain difficulties in the case of seamen it is proposed to settle by arrangement with the employers and the men's union.

Dependants

In its provision for the dependants of a deceased workman the existing law does not take into consideration the circumstances of the dependant family, whether from the point of view of their number, financial resources or future prospects. The amount payable is the equivalent of the deceased man's earnings with the same employer for the three years preceding the

accident, the maximum sum being £300 and the minimum £150. Weekly payments already made, or a lump sum paid in redemption thereof, are deducted from such compensation. Consequently, the widow of a deceased workman without children, whose earnings were greater than those of a fellow-worker leaving a widow and five or six young children, would be entitled to a larger amount of compensation than the latter. Further, the deduction from compensation of sums paid before decease has sometimes had the effect of leaving no funds at all for the children on the death of the breadwinner. This system was held by the Committee to be entirely wrong.

Witnesses also drew attention to the absence of uniformity in the awards of judges, and to the possibility of persons claiming successfully as " partial dependants " without justification.

Various proposals regarding the amount of compensation were suggested. Many employers advocated the adoption of scales similar to those in the new British Act of 1923. Labour representatives argued that a workman disabled for a lengthy period requires, if anything, an increased income to meet the extra expenses of his illness. This was appreciated by those who spoke for employers, but the latter urged that no change should be proposed which would increase the burden on industry. In the absence of statistics as to the existing cost to industry of workmen's compensation it is impossible to estimate the effect of proposed changes. Further, absence of statutory provision for medical benefit has a considerable bearing on the amount of compensation required. The report suggests that after an experimental period of, say, three years, the inter-relation of medical treatment in workmen's compensation and medical treatment generally should be considered.

Amount of Compensation

The recommendations finally arrived at, regarding the amount of compensation have been made conditional on review when statistics to indicate their effect are available and when the scope of any scheme of medical benefit to be brought into effect shall have been ascertained. Following are the recommendations in detail :—

Fatal Cases

Irrespective of the deceased workman's earnings the following payments to be made, payments to be controlled by the court and administered by the county registrar—

Total Dependants

(*a*) Children. An annuity (weekly or monthly) in respect of each child up to the age of 15 years at the following rates :—

One child	..	£25
Two children	..	£20 (making £40 as long as both are under 15.)
Three children	..	£15 (making £45 as long as all are under 15.)
Four children	..	£12-10*s.* (making £50 as long as all are under 15.)
Five children	..	£10 (making £50 as long as all are under 15.)

No payment in respect of any child above the number of five.

(*b*) Widow or in the absence of widow, the father or mother of the deceased. The following amounts, graduated to smooth breaks :—

	£
Under 30 years	75
Under 45 years	100
45 years and over	150

(*c*) Other adult dependants, *i.e.*, in addition to widow (or to father or mother in the absence of widow), a sum of £50 in all.

Partial Dependants

The provisions of the existing Act to be retained subject to the following definition of " partial dependancy."

" For the purposes of the principal Act, a person shall not be deemed to be a partial dependant of another unless he was dependent partially on contributions from that other person for the provision of the ordinary necessaries of life suitable for persons in his class or position."

No Dependants

Increase of existing maximum limit for medical and burial expenses from £10 to £15.

The proposed compensation in respect of fatal cases is estimated not to exceed in any one instance the sum of £600.

INCAPACITY

Total

(*a*) Repeal of "War Addition" Acts except in so far as they may apply to any cases where the workman is still totally incapacitated as a result of an accident happening before the date of their repeal.

(*b*) Weekly payment to be 80 per cent. of the average weekly earnings where such earnings are £ 1 or less and 75 per cent. of the average weekly earnings in all other cases, the weekly payment in no case to exceed 35*s*.

(*c*) Compensation payable to a workman under 21 years of age at date of accident to be on the same basis as that payable to other workmen.

Partial

The weekly payment to be such a percentage of the difference between the pre-accident and post accident earnings as would have been payable to the workman if his incapacity had been total, such weekly payment not to exceed the maximum limit prescribed in the case of total incapacity.

Power to be given to the judge to treat as total incapacity the incapacity of a workman who has so far recovered from his injury as to be fit for employment of a certain kind and who satisfies the judge that he has taken all reasonable steps to obtain such employment but was unsuccessful by reason of the injury.

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

An addition of 20 per cent. of the compensation already awarded to be paid in cases of permanent and total incapacity where the injury is such that the workman requires the constant help of another person (*i.e.*, cases

of total blindness or general paralysis or the loss of the use of two limbs), the total compensation paid not to exceed 42s. per week.

WAITING PERIOD

Payment of compensation to be made as from the fifth day of disablement from earning full wages, without any dating back. This recommendation to be reviewed when the scales of compensation are being reconsidered.

REDEMPTION

Redemption is effected by the payment of a lump sum on the basis of an annuity, equal in the case of permanent incapacity to 75 per cent. of the annual value of the weekly payment. The existing law provides for compulsory redemption only by the employer of a weekly payment which has been continued for at least six months. Claim was made that a workman should legally be entitled to commute, but it was felt that this was not practicable. Insurance companies are generally ready to commute weekly payments but, on the other hand, many employers might find it embarrassing to be called upon to meet heavy claims at short notice. Consequently, the report does not recommend any alteration in the law in this respect.

Cases were quoted in evidence where employers and insurance companies stopped weekly payments on the grounds that the workman's incapacity had lessened or ceased. In such cases the workman must commence proceedings if he has the means for doing so, and in the meantime be without compensation. A section of the British Act of 1923 was framed to meet cases of this kind. It provides that, failing agreement or arbitration an employer is not entitled to end or diminish a weekly payment unless— (*a*) a totally incapacitated man has returned to work; (*b*) a partially incapacitated man has increased his weekly earnings; or (*c*) a workman is certified by his employer's doctor to have wholly or partly recovered and is given ten days' notice of diminution or termination of the weekly payment. In the last-mentioned case, if the workman's doctor disagrees, the medical referee decides, and in the meantime payment continues. A similar provision for the Saorstat is recommended, as are also those in the British Act for regulating compensation according to the change in the level of wages, for more equitable treatment of minors and for the recording of all lump sum agreements by the county registrar, who is given adequate power to satisfy himself that they are fair and equitable. Approved societies are to be given the right to appear in such cases.

PROCEDURE

As regards procedure for recovery of compensation the evidence showed general agreement with the workers' contention that, once notice of the accident has been given there should be no necessity for a formal claim for compensation. The employers, however, insisted that there should be a time limit to prevent stale demands. The committee agreed on both these points and recommended provisions on the lines of those in the British Amending Act, except that, having proposed to dispense with a formal claim to compensation, it was thought desirable to insist that notice of accident should still be in writing.

In case of disputes the present law provides for decision on the medical questions by the medical referee or circuit judge, according to the stage which the claim has reached. If the case goes to court, the judge may summon the medical referee to sit with him as assessor, but is not bound to act on his advice, and is not even obliged to summon him. Many witnesses emphasised the advantage of more frequent use of the assessors' services. Accordingly, it is recommended that, on request of either employer or workman, and on payment of the prescribed fee by the requesting party, the judge shall summon the medical referee to sit with him as advisory medical expert. If the powers of the county registrar are extended as advocated, a provision is recommended that, on the application of either party, the county registrar should hear the matter and, subject to right of appeal to the judge, refer it to a medical referee.

ARBITRATION

The present law provides for arbitration by a committee of employers and workmen, by an agreed arbitrator, or by the circuit judge. It was hoped originally that arbitration by committees would be resorted to where possible, but it appears that in practice the circuit court is almost invariably used. The Committee does not recommend any alteration in the law on this point, but expects that grounds for complaint will be removed by the adoption of its recommendations as to basis of payment, and that unnecessary delay will be avoided by allowing appeals to be made direct to the Supreme Court, by extending the powers of the county registrar, and by improved circuit court machinery. The committee recommended that in every case the amount of costs be set out in the decree, apart from the amount awarded as compensation, and, further, that the scale of costs appropriate to workmen's compensation should be reasonable to such an extent that there would be no solicitor and client costs, or no necessity for them.

STATISTICS

Before 1922 statistics of workmen's compensation were collected by the Home Office for Great Britain and Ireland, but the published annual returns did not show separate figures for Ireland except in respect of proceedings and administration of the Acts. No returns of injuries or amounts paid in compensation, required by Section 12 of the Act of 1906, have yet been collected for the Saorstat. It was felt that, on the whole, the list of industries to which the Act applies is more suitable to Great Britain and Ireland as a whole than to the Saorstat. The committee, therefore, considered that, before enforcing its provisions the groups should be examined and recast, to enable the statistics to represent more fully Saorstat conditions. Further information is also needed in regard to the transactions of insurance companies and the incidence of trade diseases. This should be obtained under the Statistics Act, 1926.

The following matters requiring reciprocal arrangements with other countries have emerged :—

(*a*) Saorstat workmen employed in Great Britain or Northern Ireland.

(*b*) Saorstat seamen, etc., employed on British ships.

(c) Application to the Saorstat of the Anglo-French Convention Act of 1909.

(d) Matters relative to procedure such as the transfer of funds from a British to a Saorstat Court or *vice versa*.

These call for an agreement or convention between the governments of the Saorstat and Great Britain. Moreover, the number of foreign workers engaged at present in the Saorstat by continental contractors, may necessitate reciprocal arrangements with the countries concerned. Such arrangements for equality of treatment for national and foreign workers are provided for by the International Labour draft conventions and recommendations relating to Workmen's Compensation.

The appendices to the report include the text of the British Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, a description of systems of industrial accident insurance in other countries, statistics of proceedings in the Saorstat under the Workmen's Compensation and Employers' Liability Acts, and the text of the seven labour conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation relating to Workmen's Compensation. (*From "Irish Trade Journal," Dublin, October 1926.*)

The Swedish Family Budget Enquiry of 1923

In the October 1926 number of the *International Labour Review*, Dr. Nils Cederblad of the Social Board, Stockholm, gives a detailed account of the Swedish Family Budget Enquiry of 1923. It is pointed out that the first family budget enquiry in Sweden was conducted in 1907-1908 and related to Stockholm where household accounts for 150 families were collected. This enquiry was followed by a wider investigation in 1913-1914 when household accounts for twelve months were obtained from 1335 families. During 1916, 1917 and 1918 certain minor investigations were made. In 1920 the budget enquiries were extended to cover agricultural workers as well, accounts for a full year being collected from 372 such families. Finally, a further Swedish family budget enquiry was carried out in 1923 with the object of determining as to how far the 1913-1914 enquiry had lost its value owing to the considerable changes in prices and consumption, that had taken place during the ten years' interval. This enquiry covered 1400 household accounts which were kept for a whole year.

Family budget enquiries are regarded in Sweden as being of great practical importance. These budget enquiries have been used as a basis of calculating changes in the cost of living and the indices so compiled have been used extensively in fixing the wages of state and private employees. The enquiries have also been used to determine the differences in the cost of living in different parts of the country. The wage regulations for State employees, as also the wage clauses in many collective agreements for the more important industries lay down that wages are to be adjusted to the cost of living in the locality, so that real wages may be approximately the same everywhere. A similar principle has also been adopted for taxation. For both state and municipal taxation the part of the income considered to correspond to the minimum of subsistence is exempted from

taxation. But this minimum subsistence level depends among other things on the cost of living in the locality in which the taxpayer lives. And for the construction of a cost of living index it is as important to know the quantities of consumption as to have reliable price data. The conditions of consumption vary in different parts of Sweden and thus it has not been found possible to adopt a single budget for the whole country, but several budgets have had to be worked out, although they apply to the same standard of life so far as the nutritive value of food is concerned. In addition to these uses to which budget enquiries are put in Sweden, they have been widely used in the propaganda for raising general welfare by improving domestic housekeeping. The daily and the weekly press in Sweden devotes a great deal of attention to all questions relating to the standard of life.

Unlike the 1913-1914 enquiry, the 1923 enquiry covered households of industrial workers as well as those of higher-grade officials. It was necessary to consider the accounts of one year because in Sweden differences between the seasons have a far reaching effect on the family's consumption. In the account books the data were compiled in as much detail as possible. For instance, income was divided into 15 heads and expenditure under 153 heads, including 72 for foodstuffs. The account book also contained questions on the composition of the family, the length of time and the extent to which each member of the household participated in the consumption, the size of the dwelling, the area and height of the rooms, conveniences, additional food supply produced by the family itself, the value of supplies received in kind, etc.

In the case of the working classes, the selection of the families for the distribution of account books was made by means of an agreement between the Social Board and the Municipal authorities in the larger towns. Thus a committee was appointed in each of the towns taking part in the enquiry, which distributed and collected the account books and at the beginning of the period also assisted the book keepers with advice and information. In smaller districts, the local committees consisted only of one representative each of employers and workers. For the middle class household the account books were distributed by various employees' organisations. Altogether 3000 account books were distributed, of which 1740 or 58 per cent. were returned complete for a full year. Only 1400 account books were, however, used for tabulation of the results. Apart from the interest taken by the families in maintaining the accounts, a contributory cause of the success of the enquiry was that each family which kept its account for the whole year received an award of from 25 to 50 kronor. An added incentive was that in larger places extra awards were made for the best kept records.

The results of the enquiry showed that the average annual income of working and middle class families was 3811 kronor* and 8433 kronor respectively and the expenditure 3831 kronor and 8502 kronor respectively. Although the average income of middle class families was more than twice as high as that of working class households, the proportion of expenditure on various groups of commodities differed considerably as

*1 Kronor = 11 as. 9 p. approximately as on 21st October 1926.

between the two classes. The ratio of the expenditure on foodstuffs in the middle classes to that in the working class households was 126: 100; that for rent, fuel and light, clothing, subscriptions and insurance contributions was 214: 100 and the proportion for all other items among which taxes and cultural expenses were of special importance was 362: 100. This shows that the middle classes did not use their surplus income to improve the food standard to any great extent, but spent it chiefly on paying higher taxes and improving the cultural standard of the family.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of expenditure on various commodities among the working and the middle classes :—

Expenditure on Commodities per cent. of Total Income

Group of commodities	Working-class households				Middle-class households			
	Income per unit of consumption			All households	Income per unit of consumption			All households
	Under 1,100 kr.	1,100—1,650 kr.	1,650 kr and over		1,100—2,200 kr.	2,200—3,300 kr.	3,300 kr. and over	
Number of households	533	470	189	1,192	60	94	54	208
Total income (kr.) ..	2,853	4,499	6,401	3,811	5,624	8,587	13,029	8,443
	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.
Food, drink and tobacco .	48·7	40·7	35 0	42·9	32·5	27·7	21·3	26·9
Rent	9·3	10·3	10·2	9·9	11·4	11·3	10·0	11 1
Fuel and light ..	4·5	4·3	4·1	4 3	4·0	3·8	3·2	3·7
Clothing.. ..	9·6	10·4	10·5	10·1	11·2	9·9	8·7	9·8
Shoes	4·4	3·7	3·0	3·9	3·2	2·4	1·8	2·4
Taxes	6·5	8·3	9·5	7·8	9·1	12·6	14·1	12·2
Household effects ..	3·6	4·7	6·0	4·5	5·4	6·2	6 9	6·2
Subscriptions to societies and insurance contributions ..	4·6	5·0	5·2	4·9	4·5	5·5	5 0	5·1
Children's education.	0·8	1·0	0·3	0·8	3·2	1·6	0·3	1·5
Newspapers ..	1·0	1·1	1·0	1·0	0·9	0·9	0·7	0·8
Books	0·2	0·4	0·6	0·3	0·9	1·4	1·8	1·4
Stationery, postage, telephone ..	0·5	0·6	0·8	0·6	1·1	1·5	1·3	1·3
Cleaning materials ..	1·2	1·1	1·1	1·1	1·1	1·1	1·1	1·1
Medical attendance and medicine ..	1·4	1·7	1·7	1·6	1·8	2·2	1·5	1·9
Domestic help ..	0·2	0·4	0·8	0·4	1·7	3·0	4·9	3·3
Gifts	1·2	1·8	2·4	1·7	2·3	2·6	3·5	2·8
Amusements and recreations ..	0·5	0·7	0·7	0·6	1·0	1·1	1·3	1·1
Travel	1·5	2·1	2·7	2·0	2·2	2·2	2·0	2·2
Other expenses ..	1·7	2·2	2·9	2·1	4·6	6·7	6·8	6·0
Total expenditure ..	101·4	100·5	98·5	100·5	102·1	103·7	96·2	100·8

For purposes of comparing the standard of life in 1913-1914 and in 1923, budgets furnished by 962 households in the latter year were selected.

In order to make a fair comparison, the income and expenditure figures for 1913-1914 were reduced to the 1923 price level by the use of index numbers. The comparison revealed a rise of 18·7 per cent. in the real income or in other words in the standard of life. If measured by expenditure the rise in the standard of life amounted to 20·3 per cent.

The following table shows the average annual expenditure among working class households in 1914 and in 1923.

Average Annual Expenditure per Normal Household Among Working-Class Families

Group of commodities	Expenditure in 1923 according to consumption in		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—)
	1914	1923	
	kr.	kr.	
Food, drink and tobacco	1,437·7	1,693·9	+17·8
Rent	420·0	408·5	— 2·7
Fuel and light	161·9	173·3	+ 7·0
Clothing and shoes	457·2	548·7	+20·0
Taxes	191·5	321·1	+67·7
Household effects	144·0	160·4	+11·4
Subscriptions and insurance contributions	152·8	193·1	+26·4
Children's education	19·6	35·0	+78·6
Newspapers and books	48 7	55·1	+13·1
Stationery, postage, telephone	10·8	23 4	+116·7
Washing and cleaning materials	45·0	53·1	+18·0
Medical attendance and medicine	41·4	63·0	+52·2
Personal hygiene	14·9	14·9	0·0
Gifts	38·9	67·0	+72·2
Amusements, toys, sport	39·3	46·6	+18·6
Travel	67·5	81·9	+21·3
Interest on loans	7·0	8·6	+22·9
Other expenses	39·5	67·9	+71·9
Total expenditure	3,337·7	4,015·5	+20·3

Lancashire Cotton Industry

During September, employment in the industry was worse than in August owing partly to bad trade and partly to the scarcity and high price of fuel. The percentage of insured workpeople was 24·2 on the 20th September as compared with 23·5 on the 23rd August. The number of workpeople employed in the industry during the week ended 25th September was 74,495 which was 3·1 per cent. less than a month ago and 8 per cent. less than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 72,450 workpeople in the week ended 25th September showed that about 30 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 18 hours on the average. (*Abstracted from the "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.*)

Financial Condition of Japanese Mills

The Japan Cotton Spinners' Association included 51 companies last year, and their financial condition is shown by the following figures :—

Authorised Capital	505,512,500	Yens.
Paid-up Capital	349,104,817	,,
Reserve Fund	218,827,179	,,
Debentures and Bonds	67,615,990	,,
Fixed Capital	425,050,550	,,
Depreciation Fund for half-year (not included in the above)	7,549,353	,,
Profit brought over from last year ..	47,616,352	,,
Net Profit for the second half of 1925 ..	25,814,587	,,
Dividend amount (half year)	28,572,776	,,
Reserve Fund (not included in above) ..	5,893,163	,,
Profit carried forward to next year ..	38,965,000	,,

Average dividend against paid-up Capital—16 per cent.

From this percentage of dividend, Indians would consider that all Japanese mills are prosperous. But Mr. T. Tamagachi, Agent of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association at Bombay, told recently a representative of the *Bombay Chronicle* that this was not so. After the boom days, some mills paid no dividends and had to go into liquidation. These mills generally paid big dividends during boom time or were newly erected at high cost. In contrast to the condition described above very few mills in India have more than 1 crore in reserve, and still they put a very small balance of their profits to carry to the next term. If the Indian mills had desired to increase their reserves, they could have done so during the boom period. But instead of doing so, they paid large dividends without any preparation for the rainy days. (*From "Indian Textile Journal," October 1926.*)

All-India Trade Union Congress

TO BE HELD IN CALCUTTA

The Seventh Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress will be held in Calcutta some time in the winter season. The exact date will be announced later but it is probable that it will be in the third week of January next. A strong Reception Committee has been formed with Mr. Suresh Chandra Bhattacharjee as Chairman.

Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasada of Ajmer will preside over the Congress and a definite programme of work for the next year will be taken up.

Affiliated Unions are requested to send in their resolutions and the names and addresses of their delegates to the Secretary of the Reception Committee at its office—No. 12 Dalhousie Square, Calcutta. No delegation fees will be charged.

Deductions from Wages or Payments in Respect of Fines

Government Enquiry as to its Extent

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1926 we published a note dealing with the enquiry instituted by the Government of India, in the Department of Industries and Labour, with regard to the question of the abuses that might be prevalent in India as a result of deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines. The Government of Bombay in the General Department have instructed the Labour Office to conduct the necessary enquiries in connexion with this subject in the Bombay Presidency. The usual procedure in connexion with all matters concerning Labour Legislation has been to circulate copies of the Government of India letters on various subjects to different Bodies, Associations and persons representing capital and labour interests. In the present case this was not possible because no information of any kind whatever was available with regard to the extent to and the basis on which fines are inflicted in this country. The Labour Office, accordingly, drew up a draft questionnaire and a schedule designed to collect the necessary information which was forwarded to 24 Bodies and Associations with a request that they should favour the Labour Office with their views on its suitability for the purpose, etc.

All the Bodies and Associations consulted, were with one exception, agreed on the necessity of having a comprehensive enquiry. Opinions differed as to the period to be covered but the majority considered that one year should be taken. Certain organizations, however, considered that if statistics were asked for for a period of one year the labour which would be involved in extracting the figures required would be so heavy that many factories would probably not be able to fill in the schedule. It was decided that the period to be covered for the Textile Industry should be the first ten months of the year 1926 and that statistics should be asked for for the whole of the year 1925 from all other factories, industrial organisations, etc., included in the enquiry. With reference to the question as to whether the enquiry should be confined to industrial establishments only or whether it should be extended so as to include all large Labour-employing organisations, such as the Docks, Municipalities, Building and Construction Works, Railways, Tramways, Shipping, Hotels, Restaurants, Shops, etc., and all large offices, all Labour interests unanimously held that the enquiry should be fully comprehensive. Employers' interests were divided in their views but the preponderance of Employers' views on the question was in agreement with the opinion of Labour. It has, therefore, been decided to make the whole enquiry as comprehensive as possible.

Almost all the Bodies and Associations consulted agreed that the questionnaire and schedule were fair and reasonable. The fullest consideration was given to the views of such of the Employers' and Labour Associations as expressed dissatisfaction with the questionnaire and

schedule either on the ground of over-elaboration or incompleteness. The questionnaire and schedule as remodelled in the light of the various criticisms received, embody all the suggestions made for their improvement where it was considered that the suggested additions, alterations or omissions would add to the value of the enquiry.

It has been decided to issue the questionnaire and schedule with a covering letter to all known factories in the Bombay Presidency and to all known large labour employing organisations of the type mentioned above and to all the larger commercial offices. The various establishments addressed have been requested to favour the Labour Office with their answers to the questionnaire and their returns in the schedule by the 10th December 1926. The Labour Office hopes that all the establishments addressed will give their fullest co-operation to the enquiry with a view to making it as comprehensive as possible.

We give below (1) a copy of the letter addressed by the Government of India to all Local Governments and Administrations on this subject together with a copy of the Truck Act of 1896 which embodies the main provisions of the English Law with regard to deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines; (2) a copy of the circular letter forwarded by the Labour Office to all the establishments which have been requested to furnish answers and returns; and (3) copies of one of the three types of questionnaire and schedule, that for the Textile Industry. The schedule and questionnaire have been slightly modified for (*a*) all other factories and industrial establishments, and (*b*) all other establishments not included in the above categories.

I

(*a*) Letter No. L—1418 dated Simla the 25th June 1926 from the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour to all Local Governments and Administrations :—

" I am directed to ask for the assistance of the Government of Bombay in enabling the Government of India to obtain information on the extent of the practice in India by which employers in industrial concerns are empowered to inflict fines upon their workmen. Suggestions have been made in the Central Legislature, in the press and elsewhere that the system of inflicting fines upon workmen is common in Indian industrial establishments, and that it constitutes an evil of such proportion that steps should be taken either to abolish the system altogether or to reduce it to such dimensions as to prevent abuse.

" 2. That the system is liable to abuse is obvious. If fines are not subject to regulation the employer who imposes a fine acts as prosecutor and judge, and the employee has no effective remedy if he is fined unjustly or in excess. This is true even in countries where workmen are literate and where they have the support of trade unions in resisting unfair imposts. It is not unnatural to expect that in India the ignorance of the great mass of workmen and the absence of strong labour organizations would make the need for protection greater than elsewhere. The experience of Western countries has in many cases led to more or less elaborate legislation on this subject. The main provisions of the English law are embodied

in the Truck Act of 1896, a copy of which is appended for ready reference. In several other countries the power to impose fines and make deductions from wages is regulated by law. Sometimes a limit in the shape of a maximum percentage of wages is imposed; generally deductions can only be made in accordance with a code of regulations duly posted in the factory or other establishment; and frequently the law contains the salutary provisior that sums paid as fines must be credited to funds devoted in some manner or other to the benefit of the workers.

"3. It will be apparent that while the legitimacy of the system of imposing fines is recognized in most countries, restrictions are frequently imposed with the object of preventing abuse. The English law makes a distinction between three forms of deductions from wages—deductions in respect of fines (*i.e.*, for breaches of discipline); deductions in respect of bad or negligent work, or injury to the materials or other property of the employer; and deductions in respect of materials provided by the employer. The Government of India are not in possession of full information on the extent to which the practice of making deductions of these various kinds exist in India, though they are inclined to the view that it is in respect of the first two forms of deductions from wages, mentioned above, that the practice is most prevalent and most liable to abuse. The distinction between these two forms of deductions is not always easy to define, and indeed one of the recommendations of the Truck Committee appointed in England in 1906 was the repeal of the provisions of the English law relating to deductions in respect of damaged goods (Section 2 of the Act of 1896), the effect of which recommendation would be that the employer could only deal with cases of careless or negligent work in the same way and under the same conditions as he would be allowed to deal with breaches of discipline. The deductions would cease to be a method by which the employer recoups the loss he has sustained through the worker's act or default, and would become rather of the nature of a fine.

"4. There is, of course, a body of opinion which urges that fines ought to be abolished altogether, the grounds advanced being generally that experience shows that they are not a real deterrent, that they have a bad moral effect, and that, being often unfairly imposed, they create a sense of injustice and lead to irritation. The exponents of this view aver that discipline can best be maintained by adequate supervision and moral control, with the alternative of dismissal in the last resort. This was not, however, the view taken by the majority of the English Truck Committee of 1906-08. They pointed out the obvious dangers of the total abolition of the system of fining in the substitution of other and less desirable means of maintaining discipline. A considerable body of evidence was produced before the Committee to the effect that many workers prefer fines to the alternative of suspension or dismissal. Their final conclusions were not in favour of the total abolition of the system of imposing fines, but they proposed certain changes in the law designed to place such restrictions and conditions on the system as would prevent it from being either a source of profit to the employer, or a cause of improper or harsh treatment to the workers. They suggested, *inter alia*, that the

maximum fine or accumulation of fines in any one week permissible by law should not exceed 5 per cent. of the wages of the worker; that deductions by instalments should be prohibited, *i.e.*, that not more than one deduction should be allowed to be made in respect of one and the same fine; and that fines should be abolished altogether in the case of young persons of 16 years of age and under.

"5. In referring very briefly and summarily to some of the provisions of the law in other countries, the Government of India must not be understood as intending to suggest that circumstances in India are the same, or that legislation on similar lines is necessary or desirable. They have not at present sufficient information at their disposal regarding the degree to which the system of imposing fines is prevalent in India, the forms which it takes, or the extent, if any, to which it is in practice abused, to enable them to form any definite conclusions. The object of this letter is to ask Local Governments to furnish them with such information as they are able to collect on the subject, after consultation with the interests concerned, and to favour them with their views on the desirability of taking any action, legislative or otherwise, to counter any abuses which may be found to prevail.

"6. If, as the result of these enquiries, any legislative measures on the subject should appear to be desirable, the inherent difficulty of rendering such legislation effective must be recognised. This indeed is a difficulty which has been felt in England. The original Truck Act of 1831 largely failed of its effect because no one was officially recognized as having a special duty to enforce it. This drawback was to some extent remedied by section 13 of the Truck Act of 1887, which placed upon Inspectors of Factories and Mines the duty of enforcing the provisions of the Truck Acts and gave them for this purpose the same powers and authorities as they possess for enforcing the provisions of the Acts relating to factories and mines. The Report of the Truck Committee already referred to shows, however, that even in England where the workmen are literate and in every way in a better position to resist illegal exactions than in India, it has been difficult to prevent or to detect violation of the law. It appears to the Government of India that, if any legislation is ultimately found to be desirable in this country, it would probably be impracticable, in the first instance at any rate, to extend its scope beyond industrial establishments, such as factories and mines, which are already regularly inspected by a special staff.

"7. In asking for information on this subject the Government of India would welcome any suggestions which the Government of Bombay may have to make on the form which any measures, which it may be found desirable to adopt to remedy abuses, should take. They would be grateful if, after consultation with the interests concerned, the Local Government would favour them with their views not later than the 1st of March 1927."

(*b*) The Truck Act, 1896.

"Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons,

in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

" 1. (1) An employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman, for or in respect of any fine, unless—

Deductions or payments in respect of fines.

(*a*) the terms of the contract are contained in a notice kept constantly affixed at such place or places open to the workmen and in such a position that it may be easily seen, read, and copied by any person whom it affects ; or the contract is in writing, signed by the workman ; and

(*b*) the contract specifies the acts or omissions in respect of which the fine may be imposed, and the amount of the fine or the particulars from which that amount may be ascertained ; and

(*c*) the fine imposed under the contract is in respect of some act or omission which causes or is likely to cause damage or loss to the employer, or interruption or hindrance to his business ; and

(*d*) the amount of the fine is fair and reasonable having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

" (2) An employer shall not make any such deduction or receive any such payment, unless—

(*a*) the deduction or payment is made in pursuance of, or in accordance with, such a contract as aforesaid ; and

(*b*) particulars in writing showing the acts or omissions in respect of which the fine is imposed and the amount thereof are supplied to the workman on each occasion when a deduction or payment is made.

" (3) This section shall apply to the case of a shop assistant in like manner as it applies to the case of a workman.

" 2. (1) An employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman for or in respect of bad or negligent work or injury to the materials or other property of the employer, unless—

Deductions or payments in respect of damaged goods.

(*a*) the terms of the contract are contained in a notice kept constantly affixed at such place or places open to the workmen and in such a position that it may be easily seen, read and copied by any person whom it affects ; or the contract is in writing, signed by the workman ; and

(*b*) the deduction or payment to be made under the contract does not exceed the actual or estimated damage or loss occasioned to the employer by the act or omission of the workman or of some person over whom he has control, or for whom he has by the contract agreed to be responsible ; and

(*c*) the amount of the deduction or payment is fair and reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

(2) An employer shall not make any such deduction or receive any such payment unless—

(*a*) the deduction or payment is made in pursuance of, or in accordance with, such a contract as aforesaid ; and

(*b*) particulars in writing showing the acts or omissions in respect of which the deduction or payment is made and the amount thereof are supplied to the workman on each occasion when a deduction or payment is made.

"3. (1) An employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman for, or in respect of, the use or supply of materials, tools or machines, standing room, light, heat or for or in respect of any other thing to be done or provided by the employer in relation to the work or labour of the workman unless—

Deductions or payments in respect of materials.

(*a*) the terms of the contract are contained in a notice kept constantly affixed at such place or places open to workmen, and in such a position that it may be easily seen, read, and copied by any person whom it affects; or the contract is in writing, signed by the workman; and

(*b*) the sum to be paid or deducted under the contract in respect of materials, tools or machines, standing room, light, heat, or any other thing does not exceed, in the case of materials or tools supplied to the workman, the actual or estimated cost thereof to the employer, or in the case of the use of machinery, light, heat, or any other thing in this section mentioned, a fair and reasonable rent or charge, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

(2) An employer shall not make any such deduction or receive any such payment unless—

(*a*) the deduction or payment is made in pursuance of, and in accordance with, such a contract as aforesaid; and

(*b*) particulars in writing showing the things in respect of which the deduction or payment is made and the amount thereof are supplied to the workman on each occasion when a deduction or payment is made.

"4. If any employer enters into any contract contrary to this Act, or makes any deduction or receives any payment contrary to this Act, he shall be guilty of an offence against the Truck Act, 1831, and shall be liable to the penalties imposed by section nine of that Act as if the offence were an offence in that section mentioned.

Penalty.

1 and 2 Will. 4. c. 37.

"5. Any workman or shop assistant may recover any sum deducted by or paid to his employer contrary to this Act, provided that proceedings for such recovery are commenced within six months from the date of the deduction or payment sought to be recovered, and that where he has consented to or acquiesced in any such deduction or payment, he shall only recover the excess which has been deducted or paid over the amount, if any, which the court may find to have been fair and reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

Recovery of payments or deductions.

"6. (1) Every employer who has made any contract purporting or intending to operate as a contract under this Act, shall, on demand in writing by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories or of Mines, produce the contract or a true copy thereof at any convenient time and place to be named by the Inspector, and the Inspector shall be at liberty to take a copy of the same or of any part thereof, and the employer of any workman or shop assistant who is party to any such contract shall at the time of making the contract give the workman or shop assistant a copy of the contract or of the notice containing its terms.

Production of contract.

"(2) A workman or shop assistant who is party to any such contract shall be entitled, on request, to obtain from his employer free of charge a copy of the contract or of the notice containing its terms.

"(3) Every employer who has made any contract purporting or intending to operate as a contract under section one of this Act shall keep a register of deductions or payments, and shall enter therein every deduction or payment for or in respect of any fine purporting to be made under any such contract, specifying the amount and the nature of the act or omission in respect of which the fine was imposed, and this register shall be at all times open to inspection by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories or of Mines.

"(4) If any person fails to comply with this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

"7. A contract entered into under the provisions of this Act shall not be liable to stamp duty.

Exemption of contract from stamp duty.

"8. Nothing in this Act shall make lawful any contract or payment which is illegal under the Truck Acts, 1831 and 1887, or under the Hosiery Manufacture (Wages) Act, 1874, or affect the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, or any amending Act, with respect to persons employed in mines and paid according to weight, or make lawful any deduction from payments made to those persons.

Saving as to contracts and payments illegal under existing Acts.
1 and 2 Will. 4 c. 37.
50 and 51 Vict. c. 46.
37 and 38 Vict. c. 48.
50 and 51 Vict. c. 58.

"9. (1) The Secretary of State, if satisfied that the provisions of this Act are unnecessary for the protection of the workmen employed in any trade or business, or in any branch or department of any trade or business, either generally or within any specified area, may by order under his hand grant an exemption from those provisions in respect of the persons engaged in that trade, business, branch or department, either generally or within that area.

Power to exempt from provisions of Act.

"(2) The Secretary of State may at any time amend or revoke any such order.

"(3) Every order made under this section shall be laid as soon as may be before both Houses of Parliament, and if either House within the next forty days after the order has been so laid before that House resolves that the order ought to be annulled, the order shall, after the date of that resolution, be of no effect without prejudice to the validity of anything

done in the meantime under the order or to the making of a new order.

" 10. Sub-section two of section thirteen of the Truck Amendment Act, 1887 (which relates to the duty of inspectors) shall apply in the case of a laundry and in the case of any place where work is given out by the occupier of a factory or workshop, or by a contractor or sub-contractor, in like manner as it applies in the case of a factory.

Duties of inspectors. 50 and 51 Vict. c. 46.

" 11. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.

Commencement.

" 12. This Act may be cited as the Truck Act, 1896 : and the Truck Acts, 1831 and 1887, and this Act shall be construed together as one Act and may be cited collectively as the Truck Acts, 1831 to 1896. "

Short title and Construction.

II

Copy of the circular letter issued by the Labour Office.

" At the instance of the Government of India, the Labour Office on behalf of the Government of Bombay is undertaking an enquiry into the question of deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines. As will be seen from the letter of the Government of India, a copy of which is enclosed, suggestions have been made in the Central Legislature, in the Press and elsewhere that this system constitutes an evil of such proportion that steps should be taken either to abolish the system altogether or to reduce it to such dimensions as to prevent abuse. While the legitimacy of the system of imposing fines is recognised in most countries, restrictions are frequently imposed with the object of preventing abuse. The English law makes a distinction between three forms of deductions from wages—deductions in respect of fines, *i.e.*, for breaches of discipline ; deductions in respect of bad or negligent work, or injury to the materials or other property of the employer ; and deductions in respect of materials provided by the employer. The Government of India incline to the view that it is in respect of the first two forms of deductions from wages mentioned above that the practice is most prevalent and most liable to abuse.

" 2. I am instructed to invite your co-operation in obtaining information on this subject. I enclose a copy of a questionnaire drawn up after consultation with a number of Associations, Labour Organisations, and public bodies. The Labour Office is indebted to them for their assistance and it is hoped that the questionnaire is one that will enable the fullest possible information to be collected. It is divided into two parts. Part I will not, I think, present any difficulty in filling up. The schedule attached to Part II, however, has been criticised as asking for information of too detailed a character. It is, however, sent to you in the earnest hope that you may be able to fill in the information asked for under the various heads. You will, I am sure, realise that in an enquiry of this kind, on the results of which may depend whether or not legislation is desirable, it is essential that the information obtained should be as complete as it can possibly be made. I realise, however, that in the case of some organisations it may be a matter of practical impossibility to give the particulars asked for. In that case

the information required in Part II may be summarised under the three main headings, *i.e.*, the total of the fines given under Head No. 1, Head No. 2 and Head No. 3, but I would ask that every effort be made to give the information in the form it is asked for.

"3. I should be glad to receive your replies by December, 10th."

III

Form of Questionnaire and Schedule for the Textile Industry.

Questionnaire on deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines

Form for the Textile Industry

Part I

Name and Address of Mill

1. Have you any system whereby fines are inflicted on your employees or deductions made from their wages?

2. Have you any rules regulating such infliction of fines or deduction from wages?

3. If yes, please attach copy of those rules to this schedule.

4. To whom is the power of fining delegated in your mill?

5. Are the conditions under which fines may be inflicted included in the terms of contract, if any; or made known to the employees in any other manner?

6. Have you laid down any limits as to the extent to which fines may be inflicted, *e.g.*, not beyond a certain percentage of the workers' earnings per week, per month or for any other period?

7. If you have no rules governing the infliction of fines in your mill please give a list of the offences for which fines are inflicted on your employees.

8. In what manner is the amount recovered from your employees disposed of in respect of (*a*) fines: and (*b*) deductions from wages for spoilt or damaged articles? (*a*) (*b*)

9. On each occasion when a fine is inflicted is the worker concerned given full particulars relating to it?

10. Is the worker informed of the fine at the time of the occurrence or only when he draws his pay?

11. Is there a practice in your mill of giving an article spoilt or damaged by a worker during manufacture to that worker and of making a deduction for its cost from that worker's wages?

12. If so, do you charge the worker (*a*) actual manufacturing cost of the spoilt or damaged article; or (*b*) its value after being spoilt or damaged; or (*c*) the price at which it would have been sold had it not been spoilt or damaged?

13. Have you any system whereby deductions are made from wages on account of materials or tools supplied to the worker? If so, what are the rules governing the same?

14. Are the conditions relating to such deductions included in the terms of contract or made known to the employees in any other manner?

15. In your experience has any employee refused to work and vacated his employment rather than submit to any or certain fines?

16. Where fines are not inflicted, is suspension without pay an alternative measure?

17. Have you any system of fines for lateness or non-attendance on the part of the employee who is paid by the week, fortnight or month?

18. Is any reward or bonus offered and paid in your mill for (*a*) turning out better work than a specified standard; or (*b*) more regular attendance?

19. Do you grant advances to workers on wages due to them?

20. In cases where advances are granted do you make any further deductions for interest, discount, etc., on the advances given? If so at what rate?

21. If advances are not granted in your mill, does there exist a Loan Society on the Co-operative or any other system?

Part II

Name and Address of Mill

Number of workpeople employed
(*a*) Men
(*b*) Women
(*c*) Children
(*d*) Total

Total Wages Bill* for the *first ten months of the year 1926* Rs.

Summary of fines inflicted and deductions made from the wages of employees during the first ten months of the year 1926

Subject of Deduction	Numbers of employees from whose wages deductions have been made			Total amount of deductions		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
I. *Fines for*—				Rs. a. p	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p.
a. Breaches of Discipline or Factory Rules	.	..		..		...
b. Bad or negligent work	..	..	..	. ..	...	...
c. Loss of and injury or damage to materials, tools, machinery or plant belonging to the employer .	.	..	.		. .	. ..
d. Fines for any other purposes than those enumerated in (*a*), (*b*) or (*c*) ..	..	..	..		...	.
Total ..		..	..			
II. *Deductions for Materials, etc., provided by Employer*—						
a. for materials ..	..	..	..			
b. Use of tools, standing room, light, heat, power and machinery ..	..	..	..			
c. Supply of tools ..	..	..	..			
Total ..	..	..	..			

*This figure should exclude the salaries of all officers and the clerical establishments attached to your mill.

Subject of Deduction	Number of employees from whose wages deductions have been made			Total amount of deductions		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
III. *Deductions for services rendered by employer*—				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs a. p.
a. Supply of water	..	.	.	..	. ..	. ..
b. Medicines and medical attendance	..	.		.	. ..	. ..
c. Rent for lodging.				. ..		
d. Supply of food .	..		.	.	. ..	
e. Education	.	.	.	...		...
f. Provident Fund..		.	..	.		. .
g. Accident Compensation ..	.	.		. .	.	.
h. Provision of creches .	..	..	.	.	. ..	
i. Reading room, Library .	.	.		. .	. ..	
j. Interest on advances ..	.	..	..	...		
k. Any other services	..	..	..	...	...	
	..	..		. ..		
Total ..	..	..	.	.	...	...
V. *Miscellaneous Deductions for*—						
a Compulsory contributions for charitable purposes.	..	..	.	...		.. .
b. Articles spoilt or damaged by workers during manufacture and subsequently made over to the workers concerned.	.	..	.	. ..	.. .	
Total ..	..	..	..			

The definition of a child is that given in the Factories Act 1911 as amended by the Factories Act of 1922, *i.e.*, a person under the age of fifteen years.

The replies received to the above questionnaire and the returns in the above schedules will be summarised and tabulated. Summaries of the results of the whole enquiry will then be forwarded to various bodies, associations and persons with a request that they should favour the Labour Office with an expression of their views on the whole subject. The Government of Bombay will then address the Government of India on the question in the light of the opinions finally received.

Reviews of Books and Reports

Union Scale of Wages and Hours of Labor, May 15, 1925. Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, No. 404, Washington, 1926

This report covers 775,112 members of organized trades as found in 66 important industrial cities. The hourly rates of wages of all the trades considered, exclusive of street railways, rose from $1·046 in 1924 to $1·091 in 1925 or by 4·3 per cent. There was a fall of 0·6 per cent. in the weekly hours of work. The average hours for the United States in all the trades considered, excluding street railways, were 45·5 per week.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 6. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Bournemouth Trades Union Congress, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary).* pp. 243-245.

(2) *Fractions and Frictions, by W. W. Henderson.* pp. 246-248.

(3) *The First World Migration Congress, by J. W. Brown (Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions).* pp. 249-252.

(4) *The Development of the Labour Movement in Japan, by K. Matsouoka (General Federation of Labour of Japan).* pp. 253-255.

(5) *Memories and Reflections, by Propagandist.* pp. 256 and 257.

(6) *In the "Eight-fifteen," by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 258 and 259.

(7) *Looking Backwards : the Formation of the I. L. P., by Ben Turner.* pp. 260 and 261.

(8) *Workers and Joint Control of Industry, by R. M. Fox.* pp. 262 and 263.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 93. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Pension and Superannuation Funds, by Bernard Robertson.* pp. 293-295.

(2) *Sun Baths in a Factory, by William M. Turner Wilson, M.D., M.B.* pp. 295-297.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIV, NO. 4. (The International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) The Competence of the International Labour Organisation : A Further Decision of the Permanent Court of International Justice, by Dr. Jean Morellet. pp. 459-475.

(2) *The Scope of Labour Statistics, by Dr. Karl Pribram (Chief of the Statistical Section, International Labour Office).* pp. 476-488.

(3) *The Swedish Family Budget Enquiry of 1923, by Dr. Nils Cederblad of the Social Board (Socialstyrelsen), Stockholm.*—Collection of information ; compilation of results ; results of the enquiry. pp. 489-507.

(4) *The Ninth Session of the International Labour Conference.*—Composition of the conference ; president ; credentials of delegates ; agenda of the conference ; international codification of rules relating to seamen's articles of agreement—seamen's articles of agreement ; repatriation, disciplinary and penal sanctions of articles of agreement ; general principles for the inspection of the conditions of work of seamen ; hours of work in the mercantile marine ; the director's report ; joint maritime commission ; resolutions adopted by the conference—resolution submitted by Mr. de Michelis, Italian Government Delegate, resolution submitted by Mr. Lamprinopoulos, adviser to the Greek Workers' Delegation, resolution submitted by Mr. Robb, Canadian Employers' Delegate, Mr. Salvesen, Norwegian Employers' Delegate and Mr. Rivelli, French Workers' Delegate ; conclusion. pp. 508-542.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 10. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Disease and the Workmen's Compensation Act, by Sir Kenneth Weldon Goadby, K.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Cantab.) (Specialist Medical Referee, Industrial Poisoning (Home Office); Member of Health Advisory Committee, Ministry of Mines).*—Introduction; procedure under Workmen's Compensation Act; statistics of compensation; personal records. pp. 417-427.

(2) *Weavers' Cough, by E. L. Middleton, M.D. (H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories).*—Introduction; present investigation—sizing process, mycologic examinations, position of affected workers in shed, incidence of cases leaving off work, air tests, symptoms and course of the illness, prognosis, etiology. pp. 428-435.

(3) *Dust in Cotton Card Rooms, by E. L. Middleton, M.D. (H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories.)*—Carding process; stripping process; grinding process; data from dust determinations—jet dust counter, settlement dust counter; conclusions. pp. 436-448.

(4) *The Presence of Mineral Oil in the Atmosphere of Cotton Spinning Rooms, by E. L. Middleton, M.D. (H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories).* pp. 449-451.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 8. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Work of Ontario Department of Labour in 1925.*—Factories, shops and office buildings; employment service; board of stationary and hoisting engineers; steam boiler branch. pp. 771-773.

(2) *Technical Education in Nova Scotia.*—Technical schools; technical college; short term courses; correspondence study. pp. 774-776.

(3) *Conference on Industrial Accident Prevention at Washington, D. C.*—Uniform accident statistics; corrected accident rates; importance of statistics; state and provincial statistics; national accident statistics; workers' interest in safety problems. pp. 780-782.

(4) *Some Phases of "Handicap" placement*—Placements; orders in council pertaining to handicapped men; co-operation; "problem cases." pp. 782-784.

(5) *Arbitration and Conciliation in Labour Disputes on the United States Railways.*—Provisions of Railway Act, 1926; President states objects of Act; Analysis of Provisions; members of board of mediation. pp. 792-795.

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THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 9. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Labour Legislation in Nova Scotia in 1926.*—Industrial disputes investigation act; industrial peace act repealed; collection of statistics; factories act; welfare of children; relief of unemployment; acts not passed. pp. 863 and 864.

(2) *Labour in British Columbia in 1925: Report of the Provincial Department of Labour.*—Hours of work; male minimum wage act; industrial conditions in 1925; employment service; factory inspection. pp. 866-869.

(3) *Workmen's Compensation in Alberta in 1925.*—Results of 8 years' operation; accidents in 1925; industries under the act; payrolls and numbers employed; amount of compensation; refunds for disabled veterans; medical aid. pp. 870-872.

(4) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Saskatchewan.*—Increase of wage rates in (1) shops and stores; (2) laundries and factories; and (3) mail order houses. pp. 872 and 873.

(5) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Manitoba.*—New order governing certain manufacturing industries. pp. 873 and 874.

(6) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Ontario and British Columbia in 1925.*—Ontario, British Columbia. pp. 875-878.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The Director of the International Labour Office has been advised by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the registration within the past few days of additional formal ratifications of certain Labour Conventions.

Thus France has just ratified the Convention concerning the weekly rest in industrial establishments.

Sweden has ratified the Convention concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents.

The Netherlands have ratified the Convention concerning the rights of association and combination of agricultural workers. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 100.*)

* * * * * *

The Thirty-third Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office opened in Geneva on 14th October 1926. Mr. Arthur Fontaine (Government, France) presided.

At the opening of the first sitting, Count de Altea announced, on behalf of the Spanish Government, that the decision of Spain to withdraw from the League of Nations would not affect in any way her relations with the International Labour Organisation. "Spain," he said, "will remain with enthusiasm in this Organisation, in accordance with the legal principles which apply to it. Such an attitude is a consequence of the great interest which Spain takes in the problems of social legislation and of the protection of the working classes."

The Governing Body was called on to elect its officers, the period of office of those appointed last year having expired. The Governing Body re-elected unanimously for a further period of one year Mr. Arthur Fontaine as Chairman, and Messrs. Carlier (Employers' Group) and Oudegeest (Workers' Group) as Vice-Chairmen.

The Governing Body next considered the report of Mr. Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office, on the work of the Office since the last Session of the Governing Body. The report stated, among other things, that the total number of ratifications of International Labour Conventions had now reached 214.

The Governing Body took note of the ratification, unconditionally and without reservation, by the Belgian Government of the Washington Convention limiting the hours of work to eight in the day and forty-eight in the week.

A general discussion arose on the development of the eight-hour question in the various countries. The workers' representatives protested particularly against the Decree issued on 30th June last by the Italian Government on the subject of the possible extension of hours of work in Italy to nine in the day. They expressed the fear that this decision might endanger the principles of the Washington Convention, and they insisted

on the necessity of energetic action in favour of a common and prompt ratification of the Convention by the great industrial countries.

The representative of the Italian Government described the origin of the Decree. He declared that it did not infringe the real principles of the eight-hour day, and that in fact it remained unapplied. He added that Italy would respect her signature, and would apply the Convention when the conditions she had attached to her ratification were fulfilled.

The representatives of other Governments also described the difficulties which delay the ratification of the Hours Convention by their respective countries. They were unanimous in affirming that these delays were due primarily to the economic situation, and that their Governments still desire to ratify the Convention as soon as possible.

The discussion was adjourned to a later sitting, when the Governing Body would decide on a proposal by Mr. Sokal, Polish Government representative, for the appointment of a special Committee of the Governing Body to examine the position with regard to the eight-hour day and the means of hastening the ratification of the Washington Convention.

The Governing Body fixed 25th May 1927 as the opening date for the Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva.*)

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UNITED KINGDOM

The Unemployment Grants Committee in Great Britain, in its Fifth Annual Report for the year 1925-1926 recently issued, states that both the number of applications from local authorities for grants in aid of public works to relieve unemployment, and the number of such applications approved, show a substantial diminution as compared with previous years.

This was partly due to the increasing difficulty of finding, in the sixth consecutive winter of unemployment, additional public works for the relief of unemployment, and to the financial burden on local authorities. The decrease was much greater in the second half of the year, mainly owing to the circular issued on 15th December 1925, under which assistance from the Unemployment Grants Committee was limited to works which would not otherwise be undertaken for a considerable period (ordinarily more than five years) and which were intended to relieve unemployment proved to be exceptional.

During the twelve months from July 1925 to June 1926, the value of the works submitted for approval was £26,831,000, a decrease of 33 per cent. from the previous year. But while the decrease in the first six months was only 16 per cent., in the second half of the year it was 66 per cent. The schemes approved numbered 650 and their total value was £10,619,000.

The Committee consider that the scheme of grants in aid of works to relieve unemployment, which has been in operation for six consecutive winters, has now—largely for that season—passed the period of its greatest utility. If continued on the same scale as heretofore, it might simply subsidise work which local authorities would in any case have had to undertake, and would thus not increase the total volume of employment.

It might also " have the tendency to divert capital from the normal trade developments, which are now to be looked for, and would thus hinder rather than assist the relief of unemployment through the proper channel of trade recovery."

The scheme has, nevertheless, served a valuable purpose not only in providing work for the unemployed but also in the psychological effect of joint action by the Government and local authorities in undertaking so much work of marked public utility.

Since the Committee was set up in December 1920, it has approved for State assistance to the extent of about £40,000,000 more than 11,900 schemes, amounting to more than £104,000,000 in value and providing directly nearly 4,000,000 man months of employment. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 25, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

At 1st October the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 74 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. a month ago and 76 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 63, 62 and 72 respectively.

The rise in the index number at 1st October, as compared with a month earlier, was due to increases in the prices of eggs, milk, coal and gas. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, involved nearly a million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 21 million working days in September. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 108 million up to the end of September.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in September was 16; in addition, 17 disputes which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these 33 disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in September was about 15,000 working days. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.*)

* * * * * *

UNITED STATES

A significant event recently in the labour world in the United States has been the opening of a broadcasting station by the Chicago Federation of Labor. The station is intended not only for the purpose of entertainment, but also for instruction and education, *i.e.*, for interpreting the labour movement to its rank and file.

The Chicago Federation of Labor, it may be recalled, was the centre of a progressive labour movement some years ago. It is still led by some of the most advanced thinkers in the American Federation of Labor. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

A Decree of the Polish Minister of Labour and Social Assistance, dated 5th July 1926, provides that the obligation hitherto imposed on employers, in virtue of a Decree of 15th May 1925, to inform the public employment exchanges of vacancies in their undertakings for manual workers, shall henceforth be extended to cover intellectual workers.

As a result, persons who employ more than five workers whether manual or non-manual, will in future be required to notify the local public employment exchanges, within three days, of all vacancies occurring in their establishments, indicating the number of posts vacant, the kind of occupation in question and qualifications required, the conditions of work and wages, and the probable duration of the engagement. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 25, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

An interesting judgment has recently been given in Poland on the question whether a strike may entail a loss or reduction of annual holidays.

In July and August 1924 a strike occurred in the mines and foundries of Upper Silesia.

At the end of the strike, the workers' organisations demanded that there should be no reduction in the quantity of coal received by the workers as payment in kind, and that the number of days' holiday should not be reduced as a result of the strike.

As no agreement was reached between workers and employers, the case was brought before the Arbitration Committee of Katowice, which ruled that payments in kind could be reduced, but that the number of days' holiday should not be reduced, in spite of the strike.

The Minister of Labour made the decision compulsory.

As a result, the employers appealed to the Supreme Administrative Court, and the case was tried recently at Warsaw.

The Court declared that legislation in force in Upper Silesia authorised the Minister of Labour to make compulsory a decision of the Arbitration Committee, if, in his opinion, the dispute in question endangered the public interest; and that the Minister alone is empowered to decide in such cases. The Court therefore disallowed the appeal of the employers. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

A Survey has been published by the Dutch National Statistical Office of the number of strikes and lock-outs in Holland during the year 1925.

The number of strikes was greater than in the previous year, comparative statistics being as follows :—

Year	No. of strikes and lock-outs	No. of concerns involved	No. of workers involved
1924	239	1,159	27,100
1925	262	1,628	31,700

The number of working days lost by labour conflicts was in 1925, 786,000 and in 1924 only 427,100. In comparison with the years 1919-1922 the numbers have declined. Then the number of concerns involved ranged from 2000 to 3500, the number of workers involved from 44,000 to 66,000, and the number of working days lost between 1—2½ million. (1925, 786,600).

In 1925, 29 per cent. of the conflicts ended in victory, 32 per cent. in failure, and 36 per cent. in a compromise ; of 3 per cent. the results are unknown. As for the number of strikers, for 13 per cent. of them the conflicts were successful, for 33 per cent. a failure, and for 54 per cent. the result was a compromise. The chief causes of dispute were questions of wages and working conditions. The above information does not mean that working conditions for workers in concerns where there have been no strikes have remained unchanged. In most of these cases improvements have been secured without strikes. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, October 21, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The Railway Medical Officers for the different districts of the Swedish State Railways have recently sent in their reports for 1925 to the Railway Board. It appears from these reports that railwaymen suffer seriously from sciatica and other rheumatic diseases, the reason given being the unsatisfactory guard's vans on the one hand, and unhealthy and damp dwellings on the other, as well as the hard work often performed in bad weather.

On several occasions the medical officers found that the accommodation for the staff on the trains was highly dangerous to health, owing to draughtiness, especially in winter.

The medical reports also point out the necessity for giving the staff facilities for warming their meals, as it cannot be good for their health to live only on cold food.

As regards the locomotive staff in particular, the reports state that arthritis and sometimes fairly marked psychical symptoms, such as dullness, sleeplessness, and loss of memory, appear to be a regular phenomenon among engine-drivers after the age of fifty-seven or fifty-eight. The medical officers suggest that it might be worth while to consider whether engine-drivers should not be pensioned before the age of 60 years. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.*)

OTHER COUNTRIES

A Social Research Department was set up some time ago under the China Foundation for the Advancement of Education and Culture, financed partly by the trustees of this institution from money returned by America from the Boxer Indemnity, and partly from the Institute of Social and Religious Research of New York. The money, which will be available for three years, will be expended partly in rural study, in view of the essential nature of the agricultural occupation of China; a smaller proportion has been set aside for the study of problems related to industrial occupations.

A beginning has already been made on a study of "domestic industry"—industry for livelihood carried on at home. On the application of the Shanghai Industrial Committee, a group interested in questions of industrial significance in Shanghai, endorsed by a formal resolution from the Joint Committee of Women's Clubs in Shanghai, the Research Department of the Foundation, which has its headquarters in Peking, has consented to undertake, as its second study, an enquiry into the cost of living of factory workers in Shanghai.

It is proposed to conduct a "diagnostic survey" during the remainder of this year, which it is expected will reveal the nature of the problem. It will be necessary to discover the numbers employed in the various industries, so that records from the families of a fixed proportion of the workers in each occupation may be obtained, and a scientific "sample" had. It will be necessary to examine ruling wage rates, so that the "upper and lower income limits", within which the enquiry will be undertaken, may be determined.

It is further proposed to obtain at once the services of a Field Worker, who shall keep accounts of some twenty families, recording their daily expenditure, and their social happenings. With this material, the main study can then be evolved, to be pursued through the whole of 1927, so that an index figure may be obtained for this year, and remain valuable for comparative purposes for the future. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1926	1926		
1. The Asarwa Mills Co., Ltd., Asarwa Road, Ahmedabad.	125	...	11 Oct.	14 Oct.	In sympathy with a dismissed jobber.	New hands were engaged in place of the strikers.
2. The Kilachand Mills, Ltd., Lower Parel, Bombay.	19	...	11 Oct.	13 Oct.	Demand for the continuance of old rates of wages.	Work was resumed unconditionally
3. The Spring Mills, Ltd., Naigaum, Bombay.	1,558	...	17 Oct.	19 Oct	Alleged ill-treatment by the weaving master.	The strike ended in favour of the employees.
4. The Dinshaw Petit Mills, Ltd., Kala Chowki Road, Bombay.	485	...	18 Oct.	23 Oct.	Demand for better wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
5. The Ruby Mills, Ltd., Dadar, Bombay.	200	...	18 Oct.	25 Oct	Demand for better wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The Kohinoor Mills Co., Ltd., Dadar, Bombay.	800	2,420	18 Oct.	23 Oct	Alleged reduction in wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
7. The New Kaiser-I-Hind Mill, Ltd., Byculla, Bombay.	513	...	30 Oct.	1 Nov.	In sympathy with a dismissed jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING OCTOBER 1926

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Sept 1926	Machinery in motion — Oct 1926	Other causes — Jan to Sept 1926	Other causes — Oct 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Sept 1926	Fatal — Oct 1926	Serious — Jan to Sept 1926	Serious — Oct 1926	Minor — Jan to Sept 1926	Minor — Oct 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	406	43	230(b)	25	5	2	102	13	531	53	638	68
Woollen Mills ..	4	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	7	2
Others ..	6	1	2	..	..	..	2	..	6	1	8	1
Total ..	416	46	235	25	5	2	104	13	544	56	653	71
II Workshops—												
Engineering ..	25	..	274	26	..		13	..	286	26	299	26
Railway ..	120	16	1,343 c	140	3	.	42	9	1,419	147	1,464	156
Mint ..	1	..	2	1		..	2	..	1	1	3	1
Others ..	15	1	40	9	1	..	3	1	51	9	55	10
Total ..	161	17	1,659	176	4	.	60	10	1,757	183	1,821	193
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works .	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	4	..
Flour Mills ..	2	.	2	1	.		1	1	3	..	4	1
Printing Presses..	6	.	7	..		..	..	..	13	..	13	
Others ..	9	2	38	1	1		6	..	40	3	47	3
Total ..	18	2	50	2	2	..	7	1	59	3	68	4
Total, All Factories ..	595	65	1,944	203	11	2	171	24	2,360	242	2,542	268

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Sept 1926	Machinery in motion — Oct 1926	Other causes — Jan to Sept 1926	Other causes — Oct 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Sept 1926	Fatal — Oct 1926	Serious — Jan to Sept 1926	Serious — Oct 1926	Minor — Jan to Sept 1926	Minor — Oct 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	209	21	101	7	3	..	32	..	275	28	310	28
Total ..	209	21	101	7	3	..	32	..	275	28	310	28
II Miscellaneous—												
Match Factory .	1	..	2	3	1	2	..	..	2	1	3	3
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others .	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total .	2		3	3	1	2	..	..	4	1	5	3
Total, All Factories ..	211	21	104	10	4	2	32	..	279	29	315	31

Explanations :—"Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.
(c) 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING OCTOBER 1926—*contd.*

3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Sept 1926	Machinery in motion — Oct 1926	Other causes — Jan to Sept 1926	Other causes — Oct 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Sept 1926	Fatal — Oct 1926	Serious — Jan to Sept 1926	Serious — Oct 1926	Minor — Jan to Sept 1926	Minor — Oct 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..	3	..	22	5	1	..	1	..	23	5	25	5
Engineering ..	3	..	14	2	..	..	1	..	16	2	17	2
Total ..	6	..	36	7	1	..	2	..	39	7	42	7
II Miscellaneous— ..	3	..	9	1	.	..	1	..	11	1	12	1
Total ..	3	..	9	1	..	..	1	..	11	1	12	1
Total, All Factories ..	9	..	45	8	1	..	3	..	50	8	54	8

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Sept 1926	Machinery in motion — Oct 1926	Other causes — Jan to Sept 1926	Other causes — Oct 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Sept 1926	Fatal — Oct 1926	Serious — Jan to Sept 1926	Serious — Oct 1926	Minor — Jan to Sept 1926	Minor — Oct 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	83	6	72	8	4	..	22	4	129	10	155	14
Others ..	4	2	4	2	..	..	3	..	5	4	8	4
Total ..	87	8	76	10	4	..	25	4	134	14	163	18
II Workshops—												
Railway ..	33	6	168	17	..	..	14	2	187	21	201	23
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	4	1	5	1	..	..	2	1	7	1	9	2
Others ..	11	1	20	4	1	..	4	1	26	4	31	5
Total ..	48	8	193	22	1	..	20	4	220	26	241	30
III Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories .	5	1	13(*a*)	2	2	2	8	..	11	1	21	3
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	13	1	13(*b*)	4	4	1	6	2	18	2	28	5
Total ..	18	2	26	6	6	3	14	2	29	3	49	8
Total, All Factories ..	153	18	295	38	11	3	59	10	383	43	453	56

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(*a*) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of September			Six months ended September		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	„	5,602	4,341	6,761	32,048	38,113	41,824
Nos. 11 to 20	„	17,700	14,393	18,313	106,243	114,102	111,355
Nos. 21 to 30	„	12,365	9,895	12,890	80,124	81,074	88,453
Nos. 31 to 40	„	1,056	1,079	1,715	7,718	6,974	10,195
Above 40	„	473	360	903	2,428	2,559	5,026
Waste, etc.	„	9	53	93	67	280	658
	Total	37,205	30,121	40,675	228,628	243,102	257,511

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	„	4,924	3,604	6,036	28,421	33,976	37,284
Nos. 11 to 20	„	12,211	7,606	12,894	73,003	73,421	75,855
Nos. 21 to 30	„	7,609	4,534	7,829	49,856	50,663	54,734
Nos. 31 to 40	„	610	394	821	4,200	3,640	4,744
Above 40	„	307	162	404	1,355	1,497	1,958
Waste, etc.	„	3	44	84	18	227	598
	Total	25,664	16,344	28,068	156,853	163,424	175,173

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	„	204	237	184	1,162	1,325	1,237
Nos. 11 to 20	„	3,290	3,842	3,323	18,384	22,903	20,005
Nos. 21 to 30	„	3,555	4,160	3,776	22,835	23,525	24,738
Nos. 31 to 40	„	306	552	708	2,586	2,314	4,301
Above 40	„	120	130	405	819	716	2,389
Waste, etc.	„	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total	7,475	8,921	8,396	45,786	50,783	52,670

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,748	2,019	2,265	6,746	7,305	8,186
Chudders „ ..	1,501	2,524	1,665	7,087	9,212	9,626
Dhotis „ ..	5,837	6,751	7,589	35,032	39,411	46,349
Drills and jeans „ ..	759	625	968	5,928	5,486	5,629
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	85	7	37	412	305	153
Printers „ ..	262	262	142	1,819	1,348	994
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	7,487	8,680	8,557	48,549	48,505	60,863
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	1,178	1,152	1,547	6,037	6,230	7,399
Tent cloth „ ..	189	197	143	1,060	823	429
Other sorts „ ..	503	494	376	3,053	3,067	2,604
Total „ ..	19,549	22,711	23,289	115,723	121,692	142,232
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	10,141	11,299	10,009	49,921	50,002	56,421
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	146	224	161	956	1,484	1,546
Hosiery „ ..	14	24	17	75	117	136
Miscellaneous „ ..	115	195	214	793	996	1,396
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	16	36	141	41	301	954
Grand Total „ ..	29,981	34,489	33,831	167,509	174 592	202,685

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,334	1,625	2,013	4,778	5,883	7,282
Chudders „ ..	896	1,738	1,102	4,270	6,420	6,883
Dhotis „ ..	1,915	1,952	2,345	10,951	13,032	14,410
Drills and jeans „ ..	645	501	906	5,331	4,758	5,160
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	83	2	3	353	197	26
Printers „ ..	..	6	..	24	19	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	5,479	6,132	6,559	34,841	35,970	47,147
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	988	873	1,157	4,886	4,670	5,213
Tent cloth „ ..	65	118	107	466	579	359
Other sorts „ ..	222	190	196	1,350	1,326	1,464
Total „ ..	11,627	13,137	14,388	67,250	72,854	87,944
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	8,409	8,800	7,348	39,329	37,070	40,080
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	141	220	154	924	1,428	1,496
Hosiery „ ..	7	11	5	36	37	29
Miscellaneous „ ..	113	182	177	717	821	1,137
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	9	30	102	27	279	605
Grand Total „ ..	20,306	22,380	22,174	108,283	112,489	131,291

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	306	106	64	1,423	378	195
Chudders „ ..	463	625	392	2,235	2,189	2,072
Dhotis „ ..	3,033	4,019	4,291	18,815	20,217	26,123
Drills and jeans „ ..	22	18	25	160	311	165
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	1	5	34	52	94	124
Printers „ ..	202	213	75	1,209	806	528
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,576	2,081	1,452	11,168	9,897	10,305
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings „ ..	168	242	302	1,049	1,422	1,682
Tent cloth „ ..	110	77	1	548	208	10
Other sorts „ ..	164	204	87	1,115	1,205	624
Total „ ..	6,045	7,590	6,723	37,774	36,727	41,828
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	783	1,525	1,578	5,902	8,095	10,456
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	1	..	2	4	5	8
Hosiery „ ..	7	14	12	39	79	107
Miscellaneous „ .	2	3	30	77	141	241
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	..	6	37	2	20	340
Grand Total „ ..	6,838	9,138	8,382	43,798	45,067	52,980

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 12 7	6 10 8	100	137	144	142
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 10 0	8 1 6	..	100	154	145	..
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	80 0 0	77 8 0	76 8 0	100	178	172	170
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	55 8 0	50 8 0	52 0 0	100	139	126	130
Jowari	Cawnpore ..	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 10 6(1)	3 14 8(2)	100	131	148	124
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 7 1	4 5 5	4 3 9	100	135	132	129
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 1 3	6 0 6	5 13 1	100	155	184	177
Index No.—Cereals ..			..	..	..	..	100	147	150	145
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 10 6	5 4 8	5 3 0	100	110	125	123
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	6 5 7	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	112	135	135
Index No.—Pulses ..			..	..	..	..	100	111	130	129
Index No.—Food grains ..			..	..	..	..	100	139	146	141
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	..	16 2 0	..	100	..	176	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	14 0 0	16 9 0	16 14 0	100	137	163	166
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	12 14 10	10 3 3	9 8 5	100	164	129	121
Index No.—Sugar ..			..	..	..	..	100	151	156	144
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	10 12 0	7 12 1	7 7 9	100	193	139	134
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	85 11 5	77 2 3	77 2 3	100	188	169	169
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	153	136	136
Index No.—Other food ..			..	..	..	..	100	178	148	146
Index No.—All Food ..			..	..	..	..	100	149	148	143
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	12 0 0	10 12 0	10 10 0	100	135	121	119
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	10 14 0	11 5 0	10 14 0	100	136	141	136
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 8 0	14 14 0	14 10 0	100	124	137	134
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	14 0 0	18 0 0	15 8 0	100	124	160	138
Index No—Oilseeds ..			..	..	..	..	100	130	140	132

Textile Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw—											
Broach .. .	Fully good ..	Candy	251 0 0	..	350 0 0	350 0 0	100	..	139	139	
Oomra	Do. ..	,,	222 0 0	..	341 0 0	341 0 0	100	..	154	154	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned ..	,,	230 0 0	..	360 0 0	360 0 0	100	..	157	157	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned ..	,,	205 0 0	..	308 0 0	308 0 0	100	..	150	150	
Bengal	Do. ..	,,	198 0 0	378 0 0	291 0 0	291 0 0	100	191	147	147	
Index No.—Cotton, raw ..			..	..	..	..	100	191	149	149	
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Twist	40S ..	Lb.	0 12 9	1 8 0	1 1 6	0 15 6	100	188	137	122	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000 ..	Piece	5 15 0	11 6 0	9 4 0	9 0 0	100	192	156	152	
White mulls	6,000 ..	,,	4 3 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	9 10 0	100	233	233	230	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500 ..	,,	10 6 0	22 10 0	19 0 0	17 0 0	100	218	183	164	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds. ..	Lb.	0 9 6	1 3 0	1 0 0	0 15 3	100	200	168	160	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds. ..	,,	0 9 6	1 2 0	0 15 6	0 15 3	100	189	163	160	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..			..	..	..	..	100	203	173	165	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton ..			..	..	..	..	100	202	162	158	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow ..	Lb.	5 2 6	7 8 5	6 2 5	6 2 11	100	146	119	120	
Do.	Mathow Lari ..	,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 5 4	4 5 4	100	160	147	147	
Index No.—Other Textiles ..			.	..	..	..	100	153	133	134	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned ..	Lb.	1 2 6	1 15 6	1 6 7	1 11 3	100	170	122	147	
Do. Buffalo	Do. ..	,,	1 1 3	0 14 1	0 15 3	0 15 7	100	82	88	90	
Skins, Goat	Do. ..	,,	1 4 0	2 7 11	2 6 3	2 8 9	100	200	191	204	
Index No.—Hides and Skins ..			..	..	..	..	100	151	134	147	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	57 0 0	58 0 0	100	103	94	96	
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	175	163	163	
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	11 0 0	9 14 0	10 0 0	100	142	127	129	
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	14 6 0	13 14 0	14 6 0	100	160	154	160	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194	
Index No.—Metals ..			..	..	..	..	100	154	146	148	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria ..	Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	21 0 0	22 0 0	100	155	142	149	
Do.	Imported ..	,,	19 11 6	24 15 8	21 5 4	20 4 10	100	127	108	103	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand ..	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 0	7 6 6	100	170	169	169	
Do.	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	9 8 6	100	185	186	186	
Index No.—Other raw and manfed. articles			..	..	..	..	100	159	151	152	
Index No.—Food ..			..	..	..	..	100	149	148	143	
Index No.—Non-food ..			..	..	..	..	100	164	150	149	
General Index No. ..			..	..	..	..	100	158	149	147	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p. (1)	Rs. a. p. (1)	Rs. a. p. (3)				
Cereals—										
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	60 4 0	65 12 0	65 12 0	100	154	169	169
Wheat, white	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 30 % red.	,,	31 8 0	45 0 0	41 8 0	43 12 0	100	143	132	139
,, red .. .	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 92 % red.	,,	31 4 0	44 0 0	40 8 0	43 0 0	100	141	130	138
,, white	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	46 6 0	42 12 0	45 1 0	100	143	132	139
,, red	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	45 6 0	41 12 0	44 5 0	100	141	129	137
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	35 0 0	39 15 0	37 8 0	100	137	157	147
Barley	3 % dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	32 8 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	123	136	136
Index No.—Cereals ..		...		.. .	...		100	140	141	144
Pulses—										
Gram	1 % dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	37 8 0	40 8 0(2)	40 1 0(2)	100	127	137	136
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white ..	Cwt.	9 2 0	13 1 0	15 10 0	15 12 0	100	143	171	173
,, ..	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6	12 0 0	15 2 0	. ..	100	148	187	..
Index No.—Sugar ..						. ..	100	146	179	173
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	2 0 0	1 10 6	100	79	94	78
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 15 0	100	129	129	146
Rapeseed, bold	3 % admixture	Candy	51 0 0	70 4 0		.. .	100	136		
Gingelly	Black 9 % admixture .	,,	62 0 0	83 0 0			100	134		..
Index No.—Oilseeds ..							100	134	129	146
Textiles—										
Jute bags ..	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	73 0 0	55 0 0	57 0 0	100	191	144	149

Textiles—Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw ..	Sind		Maund	20 4 0	42 12 6	34 0 0	24 4 0	100	211	168	120
(b) Cotton manufactures											
Drills	Pepperill	..	Piece.	10 3 6	20 8 0	18 12 0	16 12 0	100	201	183	164
Shirtings	Liepmann's	..	,,	10 2 0	22 8 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	100	222	198	198
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..								100	212	191	181
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..								100	211	183	161
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	..	Maund.	28 0 0	49 0 0	37 0 0	39 8 0	100	175	132	141
Hides—											
Hides, dry	Sind	..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
,, ,, ...	Punjab	..	,,	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
Index No.—Hides ..								100	64	56	56
Metals—											
Copper Braziers			Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	58 0 0	57 0 0	100	103	96	94
Steel Bars			,,	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 0 0	6 4 0	100	168	155	161
,, Plates			,,	4 6 0	7 2 0	5 12 0	6 4 0	100	163	131	143
Index No.—Metals ..								100	145	127	133
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	1st class Bengal	..	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 4 0	21 4 0	100	144	133	133
Kerosene	Chester Brand	..	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	183	183
,, ...	Elephant ,,	..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	165	163	163
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			..			..		100	164	160	160
Index No.—Food ..				...	..			100	134	143	139
Index No.—Non-food ..				..			..	100	153	138	136
General Index No. ..			..	...		..		100	146	140	137

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotations for Larkana, white. (2) Quotations for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1923														
October ..	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	192	153	178	169	179	181
1924														
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	215	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a)164	(a)158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a)100 (f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105(m)
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 "	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(f) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 "	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 "	157	170	144	(a)149	(f) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173(m)
1925 April	158	175	147	..	..	600	506	..	168	134	..	..
" May	156	173	146	..	..	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
" June	154	172	146	153	..	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
" July	157	173	146	..	..	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
" August	152	173	149	..	163	610	517	..	167	132	..	..
" September	151	174	149	155	..	624	525	248	167	132	401	..
" October	153	176	149	..	..	643	533	..	165	132	..	..
" November	153	176	152	..	..	643	534	..	165	131	..	..
" December	155	177	154	156	..	640	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155	..	..	665	527	..	167	131	..	..
" February	154	173	154	..	162	661	526	..	165	131	..	..
" March	155	172	154	156	..	654	521	225	..	131	451	..
" April	153	168	153	..	..	642	529	..	..	131	..	..
" May	153	167	152	..	..	652	558	..	160	132	..	..
" June	155	168	150	..	..	650	579	218	162	131	485	175
" July	157	170	150	..	..	649	637	..	162	130	..	..
" August	155	170	150	..	163	652	681	..	161	130	..	..
" September	155	172	149	..	..	..	684	..	..	..	539	..
" October	155	174	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" November	154	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	*	100	(d) 100	100	100	..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100 (f)	100	100
1914 ,,	100	96	..	..	106	(e) 100	..	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,,		97	..	..	147	102	..	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,,		117	..	..	138	124	.	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,,		149	..	..	153	169	..	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,,	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,,	222	236	..	..	189	226	.	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,,	216	259	152	..	228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,,	199	200	150	..	175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,,	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,,	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,,	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
,, October	181	213	153	175	171	156	170	497	161	276	162	157	152
,, November	176	214	155	173	171	158	170	504	161	277	162	158	153
,, December	176	214	157	179	173	156	170	507	160	278	163	161	157
1925 January	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
,, February	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
,, March	171	204	160	179	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
,, April	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
,, May	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
,, December	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
,, August	148	177	161	158	..	..	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
,, September	149	174	164	..	..	..	151	..	..	193	142	153	151
,, October	147	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.
†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a)100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 ,,	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 ,,	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 ,,	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214 (g)	181	166	178
1918 ,,	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,,	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,,	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	.	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,,	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,,	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e)184	157
1923 ,,	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	(e)188	166
1924 ,,	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e)200	170
1925 March	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
,, April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
,, May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	..	265	169	..	165
,, June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
,, July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
,, August	147	168	146	119	156	152	..	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	..	228	166	..	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	..	216	162	..	167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1 076	.	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	..	205	159	..	..
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	..
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	..	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	..	1,052	..	194	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	.	..	..	198	156	..	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	150	156	587	660	..	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
,, September	152	162	147	..	..	148	159	..	..	..	..	..	..	157	..	..
,, October	153	163	..	.	.	147	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, November	152	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	.	.	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914=100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1926

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Sept. 1926	Karachi Sept. 1926	Ahmedabad Sept. 1926	Sholapur Sept. 1926	Poona Sept. 1926	Bombay Oct. 1926	Karachi Oct. 1926	Ahmedabad Oct. 1926	Sholapur Oct. 1926	Poona Oct. 1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 *135*	8 14 3 *133*	8 14 3 *144*	8 6 9 *159*	8 12 8 *152*	7 8 9 *135*	8 8 6 *128*	8 14 3 *144*	8 6 9 *159*	8 12 8 *152*
Wheat	„ ..	7 7 0 *133*	6 1 6 *145*	7 4 4 *154*	6 12 6 *131*	8 0 0 *149*	7 5 8 *131*	5 11 5 *136*	7 4 4 *154*	7 1 0 *137*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	„ ..	5 11 2 *131*	4 12 5 *131*	5 5 4 *140*	3 8 2 *122*	5 7 1 *159*	5 12 6 *133*	4 14 2 *134*	5 5 4 *140*	3 9 3 *125*	5 10 9 *165*
Bajri	„ ..	6 9 1 *152*	6 12 11 *162*	6 10 8 *142*	4 15 2 *141*	6 4 2 *153*	6 7 10 *150*	6 2 6 *146*	6 10 8 *142*	5 3 11 *149*	6 6 7 *156*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*138*	*143*	*145*	*138*	*153*	*137*	*136*	*145*	*143*	*156*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund ..	6 6 8 *149*	5 6 9 *142*	5 11 5 *143*	5 10 2 *131*	5 10 9 *117*	6 10 11 *155*	5 8 3 *145*	5 11 5 *143*	5 10 2 *131*	5 15 0 *122*
Turdal	„ ..	7 14 9 *136*	8 1 7 *121*	10 0 0 *162*	7 5 8 *126*	8 14 3 *135*	8 1 5 *138*	8 6 9 *126*	10 0 0 *162*	7 15 4 *136*	8 14 3 *135*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*143*	*132*	*153*	*129*	*126*	*147*	*136*	*153*	*134*	*129*

Other articles of food—												
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	14 4 7 *187*	11 13 8 *163*	13 5 4 *167*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	13 11 1 *180*	11 13 8 *163*	12 12 10 *160*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	
Jagri (gul)	,, ..	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 8 5 *150*	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	9 14 6 *141*	
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 1 *193*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 4 *197*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	
Salt	Maund ..	3 5 0 *156*	2 7 8 *189*	2 4 7 *151*	3 7 6 *156*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 3 7 *169*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*	
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 6 0 *100*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 5 8 *94*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	
Mutton	,, ..	0 10 11 *164*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 11 5 *171*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 *191*	8 3 3 *185*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	8 14 3 *200*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	
Ghee	,, ..	94 0 11 *185*	77 9 4 *182*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	84 3 4 *163*	95 3 10 *188*	74 6 8 *174*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	84 3 4 *163*	
Potatoes	,, ..	7 2 3 *159*	5 9 10 *104*	8 0 0 *210*	8 0 0 *200*	7 5 2 *217*	7 2 3 *159*	7 7 1 *137*	7 4 4 *191*	6 10 8 *167*	5 9 10 *167*	
Onions	, ..	5 5 9 *345*	3 1 6 *170*	3 1 3 *154*	3 5 4 *133*	3 3 10 *162*	5 15 3 *384*	3 5 11 *185*	3 5 4 *167*	4 0 0 *160*	2 12 11 *140*	
Cocoanut oil	,, ..	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	27 15 7 *110*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	
Index No.—Other articles of food ..	..	*184*	*167*	*165*	*156*	*158*	*188*	*170*	*164*	*156*	*151*	
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*169*	*157*	*159*	*149*	*153*	*171*	*158*	*158*	*150*	*149*	

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1923									
November	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	40	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October .. .	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, DECEMBER, 1926 [No. 4

The Month in Brief

FINES IN INDUSTRY

There are still a number of replies on this subject to come in. The Labour Office would be grateful if the questionnaire and the schedules could be returned as soon as possible.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of November 1926. The average absenteeism was 9·77 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·34 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 2·79 per cent. for Viramgaum, 15·06 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·83 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13 57 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 14·76 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·80 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 9·10.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In December 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 156 as against 154 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 154.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 146 for the month of November 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were four industrial disputes in progress during November 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 1216 and the number of working days lost 3094.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During November 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 13 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for December 1926

A RISE OF TWO POINTS

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **56 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **54 per cent.**

In December 1926,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City rose by two points as compared with the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index was 154 in November and 156 in December 1926. The general index was 37 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point higher than the twelve-monthly average for 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a rise of 2 points during the month. Rice and jowari advanced by 1 and 4 points respectively, bajri declined by 4 points while the price of wheat remained the same. Gram went up by 2 points and turdal by 6 points. Amongst other food articles, sugar (refined) was higher by 7 points but the price of gul showed no change. Salt was cheaper by 5 points and ghee by 3 points. Potatoes registered an increase of 27 points. The "other food" index was 184 as against 180 in the preceding month.

The "fuel and lighting" index advanced by 2 points to 166 mainly due to a rise in the price of kerosene oil. The clothing group registered a further fall of 8 points thus reaching the lowest level (148) in 1926.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	55
February ..	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	54
March ..	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	55
April ..	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	53
May ..	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	53
June ..	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	55
July ..	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	57
August ..	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	55
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	55
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	55
November..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	54
December..	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	56
Yearly average ..	75	83	73	64	54	57	55	55

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between November 16 and December 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—DECEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Nov 1926	Dec 1926	July 1914	Nov 1926	Dec 1926
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7 469	7·547	391 58	522 83	528·29
Wheat	,,	21	5 594	7·354	7·354	117·47	154 43	154·43
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5 615	5 781	47 89	61·77	63 59
Bajri	,,	6	4 313	6 089	5 927	25 88	36 53	35 56
Total—Cereals						582·82	775 56	781·87
Index Numbers—Cereals						*100*	*133*	*134*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4 302	6 771	6 859	43·02	67 71	68·59
Turdal	,,	3	5 844	8 089	8 417	17·53	24 27	25·25
Total—Pulses						60·55	91·98	93·84
Index Numbers—Pulses						*100*	*152*	*155*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7 620	13 693	14 287	15 24	27·39	28·57
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	14·287	14·287	59 90	100 01	100·01
Tea	,,	1/20	40·000	78·630	78·630	1 00	1·97	1·97
Salt	,,	5	2·130	3·313	3·219	10 65	16 57	16·10
Beef	Seer	28	0 323	0 547	0·510	9 04	15·32	14·28
Mutton	,,	33	0·417	0·703	0·760	13·76	23·20	25·08
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	,,	1½	50·792	95·240	94·047	76·19	142·86	141·07
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	7 141	8 333	49 27	78 55	91·66
Onions	,,	3	1 552	7·141	7·141	4 66	21 42	21·42
Cocoanut Oil	,,	½	25·396	28 573	28·573	12·70	14 29	14 29
Total—Other food articles						381·18	687·74	700·61
Index Numbers—Other food articles						*100*	*180*	*184*
Total—All food articles						1,024·55	1,555·28	1,576·32
Index Numbers—All food articles						*100*	*152*	*154*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4 375	7 406	7·656	21·88	37 03	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·49
Coal	,,	1	0 542	0 797	0·787	0·54	0·80	0·79
Total—Fuel and lighting						60·44	99·32	100·56
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						*100*	*164*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb	27	0 594	0·938	0·813	16·04	25·33	21·95
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	0·974	0·938	16·03	24 35	23·45
T. Cloth	,,	36	0·583	0 922	0·922	20·99	33·19	33·19
Total—Clothing						53·06	82 87	78·59
Index Numbers—Clothing						*100*	*156*	*148*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19 440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent						*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total						**1,251·07**	**1,931·87**	**1,949 87**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						**100**	**154**	**156**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in November and December 1926 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

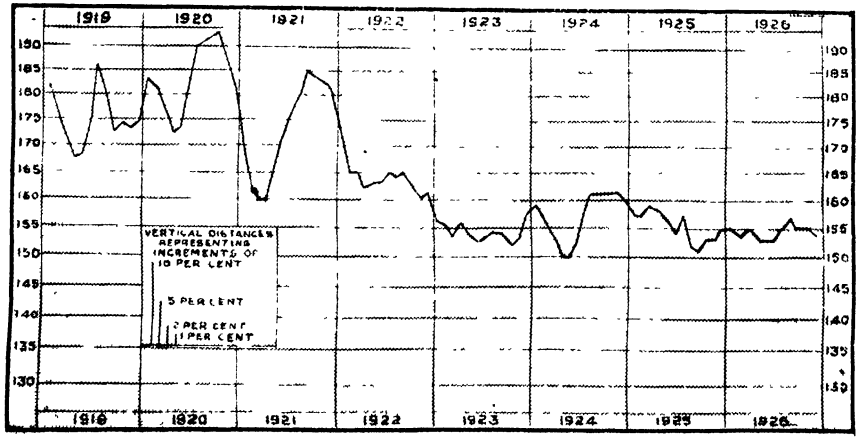
Articles	July 1914	Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Dec 1926 over or below Nov 1926	Articles	July 1914	Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Dec 1926 over or below Nov 1926
Rice ..	100	134	135	+ 1	Salt ..	100	156	151	— 5
Wheat ..	100	131	131	..	Beef ..	100	169	158	— 11
Jowari ..	100	129	133	+ 4	Mutton ..	100	169	182	+ 13
Bajri ..	100	141	137	— 4	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	157	159	+ 2	Ghee ..	100	188	185	— 3
Turdal ..	100	138	144	+ 6	Potatoes ..	100	159	186	+ 27
Sugar (refined).	100	180	187	+ 7	Onions ..	100	460	460	..
Raw sugar (gul).	100	167	167	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	197	197	..	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	152	154	+ 2

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :

Rice 26, Wheat 24, Jowari 25, Bajri 27, Gram 37, Turdal 31, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 49, Salt 34, Beef 37, Mutton 45, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 46, Onions 78, Cocoanut Oil 12.

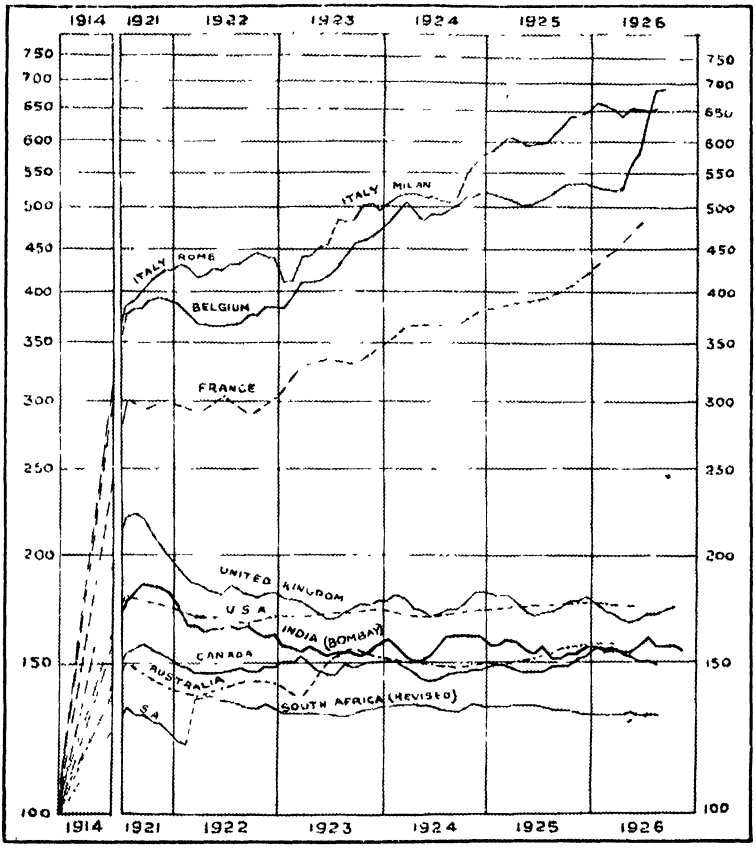
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 3 pies for all items and 10 annas 5 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos : (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922 and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working class only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of one point

In November 1926 the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 146 as against 147 in the previous month. As compared with October 1926, there was a rise of one point in the food group but the non-food group declined by 2 points. The general index number was 117 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 17 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

A fall of one point in cereals was counterbalanced by a rise of 4 points in pulses and the index number for food grains remained stationary at 141. The price of rice and bajri fell by 5 and 29 points respectively whilst that of barley remained the same. Wheat, jowari and gram advanced by 8, 10 and 7 points respectively during the month.

There was a rise of 8 points in "sugar" owing to a rise of 17 points in sugar (Java, white). The "other food" index remained stationary at 146.

Under the non-food group, there was a decrease of one point in Oilseeds, of 8 points in Cotton manufactures and of 3 points each in Other textiles and Hides and skins. Metals advanced by 2 points and Other raw and manufactured articles by 8 points. The non-food average was 147 as against 149 in the preceding month.

The sub-joined table compares November 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1925*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Oct 1926	+ or − % compared with Nov 1925	Groups	Nov 1925	Feb 1926	May 1926	Aug 1926	Oct 1926	Nov 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	− 1	− 6	1. Cereals ..	103	96	100	99	97	97
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 3	+ 4	2. Pulses ..	120	109	115	124	121	124
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 6	− 6	3. Sugar ..	98	90	95	88	87	92
4. Other food ..	3	..	−17	4. Other food ..	90	81	79	75	75	75
All food ..	15	+ 1	− 7	All food ..	100	92	95	94	92	93
5. Oilseeds ..	4	− 1	− 2	5. Oilseeds ..	96	93	99	97	96	95
6. Raw cotton ..	5	−21	−30	6. Raw cotton ..	89	79	73	79	79	62
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 5	−19	7. Cotton manufactures ..	94	90	88	86	80	76
8. Other textiles.	2	− 2	−14	8. Other textiles.	99	95	93	84	87	85
9. Hides and skins	3	− 2	− 7	9. Hides & skins.	106	105	106	88	101	99
10. Metals ..	5	+ 1	− 2	10. Metals ..	97	97	96	94	94	96
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 5	+ 1	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	97	92	94	96	101
All non-food ..	29	− 1	− 9	All non-food ..	97	93	91	89	89	87
General Index No...	44	− 1	− 9	General Index No.	98	93	93	91	90	90

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 376.

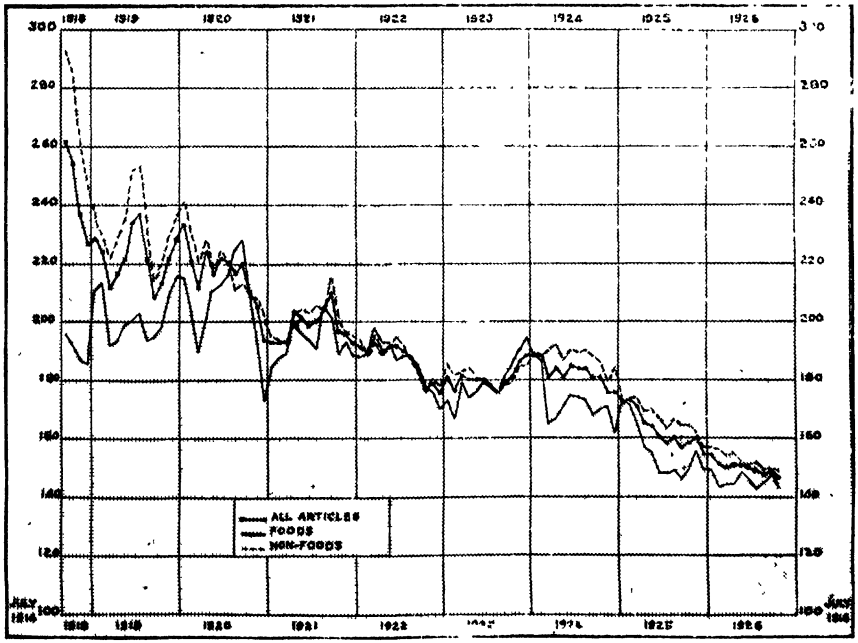
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

—	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
Eleven-monthly „ 1926	145	152	150

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

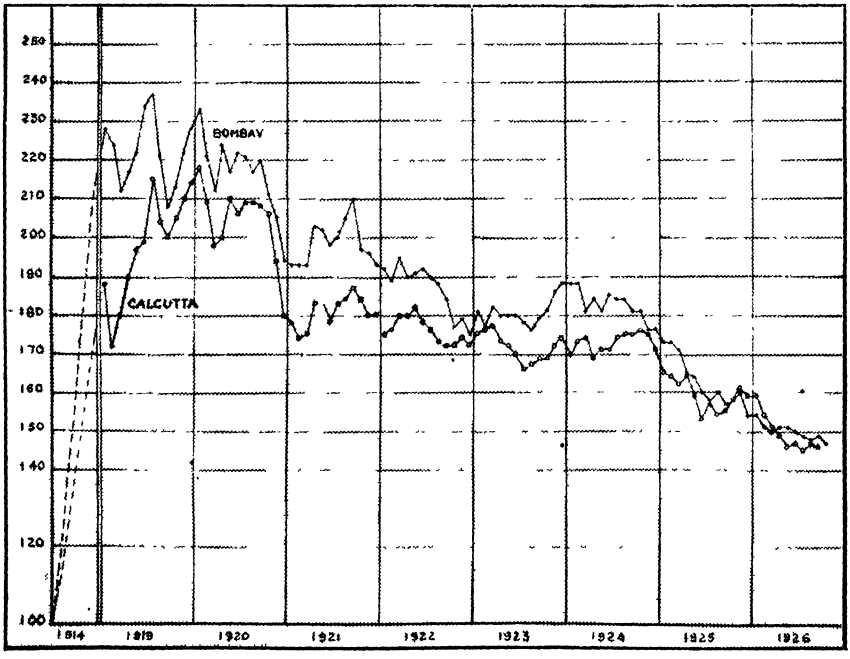


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1925 to March 1926 prices in Bombay were lower than those in Calcutta.

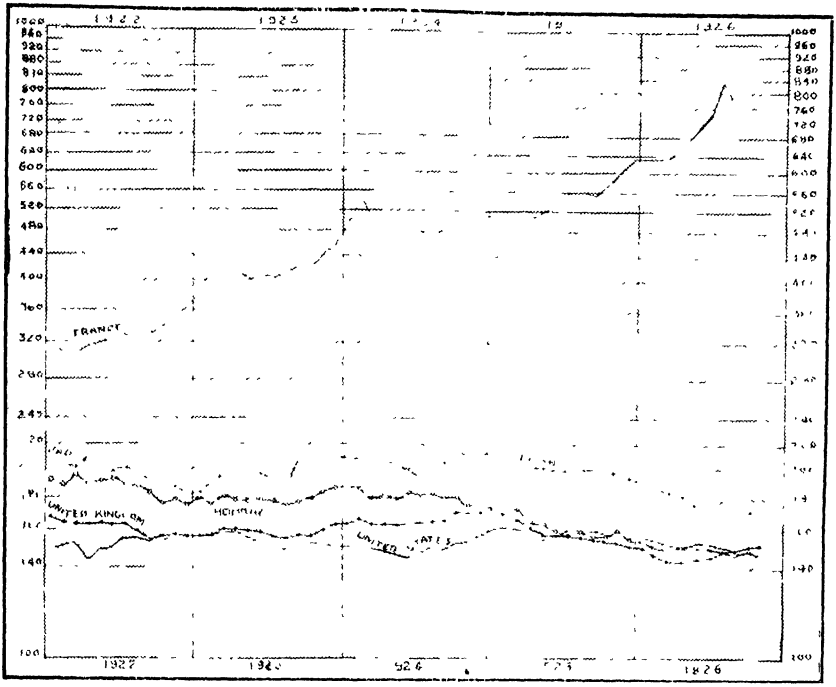
*The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale**



* Revised figures have been used for Calcutta since 1922.

COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " The Statist."

The Labour Office also keeps on record fourteen other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times* and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Oct. 1926	Nov. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Nov. 1926 over or below	
							July 1914	Oct. 1926
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill .	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	7 11	+ 2 1	— 0 1
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 6	7 6	+ 1 8	
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 8	5 6	+ 1 3	— 0 2
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 9	6 4	+ 1 9	— 0 5
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 5	6 6	+ 2 2	+ 0 1
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 3	8 3	+ 2 4	
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer	28	1 1	1 11	1 11	+ 0 10	
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	,,	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 4	15 4	+ 7 6	
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+ 1 2	
Beef ..		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	
Mutton .		,,	39	3 0	5 7	5 6	+ 2 6	— 0 1
Milk .	Medium ..	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	
Ghee .	Belgaum, Superior ..	,,	28	7 1	13 4	13 4	+ 6 3	
Potatoes .	Ordinary ..	,,	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	
Onions .	Nasik ..	,,	28	0 3	0 10	1 0	+ 0 9	+ 0 2
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,,	28	3 7	3 11	4 0	+ 0 5	+ 0 1

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Sattan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during November 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under foodgrains rice, jowari, and bajri recorded a fall of 1, 2 and 5 pies respectively while gram rose by 1 pie per paylee. Wheat and turdal showed no change. Amongst other food articles, cocoanut oil and onions advanced by one and two pies respectively per seer but mutton declined by 1 pie per lb. The other articles remained practically unchanged during the month.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 300 per cent. above their prewar level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and beef by more than 60 per cent. and potatoes by 50 per cent. The rise in the price of foodgrains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in October and November 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in October and November 1926 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in October 1926 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in November 1926 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	113	118	112	116	Rice ..	100	107	119	113	114
Wheat ..	100	78	99	96	109	Wheat ..	100	82	99	96	102
Jowari ..	100	85	92	62	98	Jowari ..	100	80	95	66	95
Bajri ..	100	95	103	81	99	Bajri ..	100	85	99	84	102
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	93	103	88	106	Cereals ..	100	89	103	90	103
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	83	86	84	89	Gram ..	100	81	84	81	87
Turdal ..	100	104	124	98	110	Turdal ..	100	107	124	98	110
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	94	105	91	100	Pulses ..	100	94	104	90	99
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	93	97	95	Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	93	92	95
Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	69	Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	69
Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107	Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107
Salt ..	100	67	69	108	86	Salt ..	100	60	69	108	87
Beef ..	100	103	65	57	69	Beef ..	100	103	63	57	69
Mutton ..	100	88	88	88	96	Mutton ..	100	89	89	89	98
Milk ..	100	51	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	51	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	78	75	75	88	Ghee ..	100	76	75	75	78
Potatoes ..	100	104	102	93	79	Potatoes ..	100	105	112	93	77
Onions ..	100	57	56	67	47	Onions ..	100	58	51	62	45
Cocoa nut oil.	100	92	114	114	100	Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	83	83	87	83	Other articles of food ..	100	82	83	86	82
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**86**	**90**	**88**	**90**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**85**	**90**	**88**	**89**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month the relative average for all food articles fell by 1 point each at Karachi and Poona, while it remained steady at Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Referring back to November 1925, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles declined at all the four centres, there being a drop of 6 points each at Karachi and Ahmedabad, of 3 points at Sholapur and of 2 points at Poona.

Of individual articles the relative prices of rice and jowari increased at Ahmedabad and Sholapur but fell at Karachi and Poona. Wheat advanced at Karachi but declined at Poona and was steady at Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Turdal rose at Karachi, while sugar (refined) declined at Sholapur, and both were stationary at the other three centres. The relative prices of gram and cocoanut oil were lower and those of tea and milk remained unchanged at all the four mofussil centres. Ghee was lower at Karachi and Poona and was steady at the remaining centres.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in November .. 4 Workpeople involved .. 1,216

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during November 1926, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, and magnitude of strikes in November 1926, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades.

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in November 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Nov. 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Nov. 1926
	Started before 1st Nov.	Started in Nov.	Total		
Textile		4	4	1,216	3,094
Transport					
Engineering					
Metal .. .					
Miscellaneous.. .					
Total ..		4	4	1,216	3,094

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was four all of which occurred in cotton mills, one each in Ahmedabad and Broach and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in all these four disputes was 1216 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 3094.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, July to November 1926

—	July 1926	August 1926	September 1926	October 1926	November 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	4	7	3	7	4
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	2				
Fresh disputes begun ..	2	7	3	7	4
Disputes ended ..	4	7	3	7	3
Disputes in progress at end.					1
Number of workpeople involved ..	384	6,900	3,778	6,120	1,216
Aggregate duration in working days ..	661	22,457	3,558	14,358	3,094
Demands—					
Pay ..	2	4	2	4	2
Bonus ..					
Personal ..	1	2	1	3	2
Leave and hours ..					
Others ..	1	1			
Results—					
In favour of employees.				1	
Compromised ..		1			1
In favour of employers..	4	6	3	6	2

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

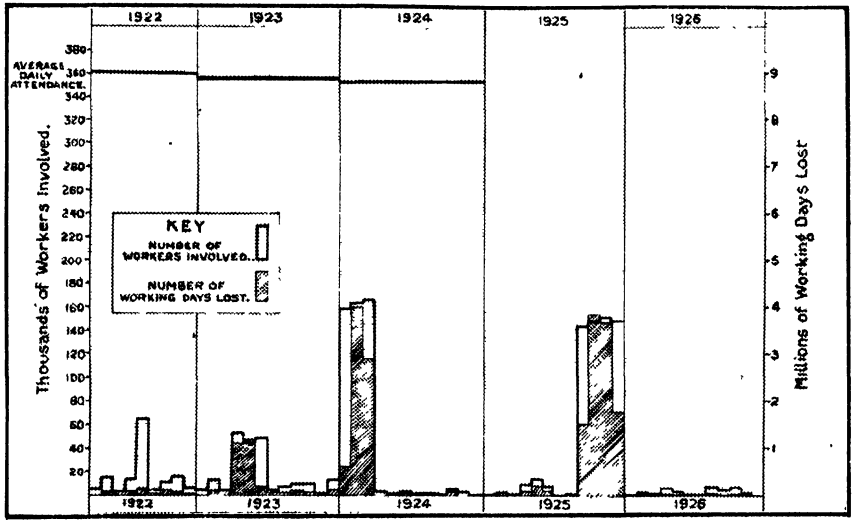
III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent)
December 1925	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February „	5	5,817	75	25	..
March „	9	3,161	67	22	11
April „	3	13,088	67	33	..
May „	4	7,733	100	..	..
June „	9	1,752	100	..	..
July „	4	661	100	..	..
August „	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „	3	3,558	100	..	..
October „	7	14,358	86	14	..
November „	4	3,094	67	..	33
Summary for the above twelve months.	61	1,875,482	83	12	5

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency during November 1926 was four, all of which occurred in cotton mills. The total number of workpeople involved was 1216 and the time loss amounted to 3094 working days. Two of these disputes arose over the question of pay and the rest were due to personal causes. In two of the disputes the strikers were unsuccessful while in a third a compromise was arrived at. The remaining one dispute continued into the next month.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

There were two disputes in Bombay City and both were due to personal causes. On the 3rd November, 175 weavers in the Simplex Mill struck work demanding the re-instatement of an assistant line jobber whose services had been dispensed with by the management for want of sufficient work. The strikers were informed that their wages would be forfeited if they did not resume work immediately. The strikers, however, did not resume work. During the following four days the mill was closed on account of the Divali holidays. On the 8th November the manager paid the outstanding wages of the dismissed jobber and promised to re-consider the question of his re-employment. The strikers were satisfied at this and resumed work on the 9th. The strike thus ended in a compromise.

The other dispute in Bombay City occurred in the Jamshed Mill on the 18th November. The head jobber of the mill was dismissed on account

of inefficiency and the weavers who were working under him requested the manager to re-instate him. It is alleged that their request was refused and as a consequence 225 weavers went on strike. The management paid the strikers their outstanding wages on the 19th and engaged 150 new hands on the 20th. The strike terminated in favour of the employers.

AHMEDABAD

In the Ahmedabad Fine Spinning and Weaving Mills the weavers demanded an increase in the rates of wages and as this was refused, 104 men struck work after the recess on the 21st November. The management employed 17 new hands on the 22nd, 68 on the 23rd and 15 on the 25th. Two strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 23rd and two more on the 24th. The remaining strikers were informed that they would not be re-employed and that their wages would be paid on the 27th. The strike ended in favour of the employers.

BROACH

The weavers in the Whittle Mill No. 3 demanded an increase in the rates of wages and also that a statement showing the rates of wages should be posted in a prominent position in the mill. Owing to the alleged inattention of the management to their demands 262 weavers went on strike on the 23rd November. The outstanding wages were paid to all the strikers on the 25th and the 26th. Thirty strikers resumed work in the afternoon on the 27th but they again struck work next day after the recess. The mill was closed on account of the strike on the 29th. As none of the strikers returned to work on the following day only the calendaring department of the mill was working; and a list of the increased rates of wages was put up in the mill. The dispute continued into the month of December.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of November 1926 in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi, and other centres of the Presidency. In November 1926 there were 242 industrial accidents in Bombay City. Of these 2 were fatal, 18 serious and the rest minor. Fifty-nine or 24 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 183 to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 77·3 in workshops, 21·5 in textile mills, and 1·2 in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad the total number of accidents was 26, all of which occurred in textile mills. Of the total, 17 or 65 per cent. of the accidents were

caused by machinery in motion and the remaining 9 or 35 per cent. were due to other causes. Three of the accidents caused serious injuries and the remaining 23 were of a minor nature.

Of the 6 accidents which occurred in Karachi, 4 were in workshops and 2 in miscellaneous concerns. Three of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. All the accidents caused minor injuries.

The number of accidents which occurred in the other centres of the Presidency was 52, out of which 23 were in textile mills, 25 in workshops and 4 in miscellaneous concerns. Of these, 26 accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One of the accidents proved fatal, 17 were serious and 34 minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

AHMEDABAD

The Manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*f*) of the Factories Act for breach of section 18 (1) (*c*) read with Rule 33 (*ii*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 100.

The Manager of a second mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*f*) for breach of section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 33 (*ii*) and section 18 (3). He was convicted and fined Rs. 50. The Manager was also prosecuted under section 41 (*j*) for breach of section 34 read with Rule 60 and was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

The Manager and the Occupier of an iron and brass works were prosecuted under section 41 (*a*) for breach of section 26. They were convicted and fined Rs. 10 separately in each of six cases (Occupier Rs. 60 for six cases and Manager Rs. 60 for six cases). They were also prosecuted under section 41 (*h*) for breach of section 35 and were convicted and fined Rs. 10 separately.

The jobber of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*a*) for breach of section 23 (*a*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

Nine prosecutions were instituted against the parents or guardians under section 44 (*a*) for allowing children to be employed in different factories on the same day. They were convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each case.

Employment Situation in November 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 113 or 76·35 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of November 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 113 returns amounted to 9·22 per cent. in November as against 11·24 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working in November 1926 69 or 86·25 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 9·77 per cent. as compared with 12·25 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 57 mills were working during the month. Information was supplied by 33 or 57·89 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 2·34 per cent. in November as against 2·74 per cent. in October. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

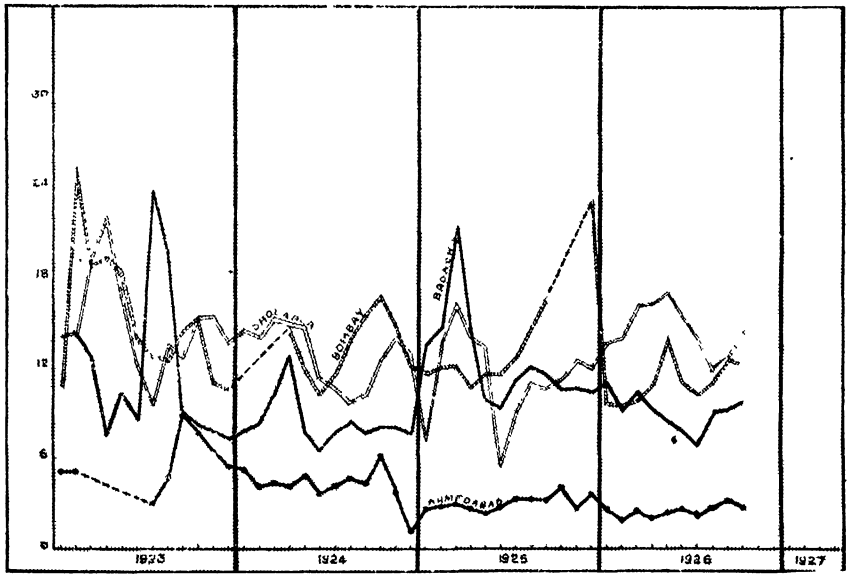
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 2·79 per cent.

Returns were submitted by all the 6 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 15·06.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism during the month under review was 9·83 per cent. the same as in the previous month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering workshops was 13·57 per cent. as against 13·10 per cent. in the previous month. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 14·76 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 9·10 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Industrial Disputes in India

During the quarter ended 30th September 1926 there were 29 industrial disputes in progress in India, 3 of which had begun before July 1926. The total number of workpeople involved was 25,275 and the time loss amounted to 134,777 working days. Only one of the disputes progressed into the next quarter.

The general effects of the disputes, by Provinces, are set out in the following table :—

General Effects of Disputes—By Provinces

Province	Number of disputes	Number of workpeople involved	Number of working days lost
Bombay	14	8,408	26,676
Bengal	12	15,567	93,601
United Provinces	1	500	2,500
Bihar and Orissa	1	500	7,000
Central Provinces	1	300	3,000
Total ..	29	25,275	134,777

Nearly half the total number of disputes in India occurred in the Bombay Presidency and 41 per cent. in Bengal. The disputes in Bengal were responsible for 71 per cent. of the total time loss and those in Bombay 20 per cent. A little over 5 per cent. of the loss in working days was due to a single dispute in Bihar and Orissa—the loss in all the other Provinces in India amounting to only 4 per cent.

Classified according to industries, the general effects of the disputes were as follows :—

General Effects of Disputes—By Classes of Industries

Industry	Number of disputes	Number of workpeople involved	Number of working days lost
Cotton mills	16	4,691	17,466
Jute mills	3	10,500	84,600
Engineering works	2	712	2,659
Conservancy	5	8,142	22,292
Miscellaneous	3	1,230	7,760
Total ..	29	25,275	134,777

The greatest number of disputes occurred in cotton mills but the disputes in Jute mills affected the largest number of workpeople and resulted in 63 per cent. of the total time loss.

The following table shows, by Provinces, the causes of the disputes :—

Province	Number of disputes assignable to causes concerning				
	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and hours	Others
Bombay	8		4	...	2
Bengal	5	2	..	2	3
United Provinces . .		.			1
Bihar and Orissa .	1	.		.	
Central Provinces .	.				1
Total ..	14	2	4	2	7

The question of pay figured as the most frequent cause and was responsible for 48 per cent. of the total number of disputes. "Bonus" and "Leave and hours" were each responsible for 7 per cent. of the disputes while 14 per cent. were due to "Personnel" and 24 per cent. to other causes.

Judged by the results, the employees were unsuccessful in 86 per cent. of the disputes and they were entirely successful only in half the number of the remaining disputes. The results of the disputes, by Provinces, are as follows :—

Province	Results of the disputes ended during the quarter		
	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
Bombay	.	1	13
*Bengal ..	1	1	9
United Provinces .. .	1		.
Bihar and Orissa . ..	..	..	1
Central Provinces	.	. .	1
Total ..	2	2	24

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 15th December 1926 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

"The weather and crop reports received so far go to show that the agricultural outlook all over the Bombay Presidency is not very different

*One dispute was in progress at the close of the quarter.

from that reported last month. In other words, while the position in almost the whole of the Konkan and Gujarat divisions is, generally speaking, satisfactory, considerable anxiety is still being felt in many parts of the Deccan and Karnatak, more especially in the east, regarding the sowing of the *rabi* crops and the development of the germinated seedlings. The position as it appears at this moment in the various divisions may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—The period under review has been practically rainless. The condition of the standing crops, however, is generally satisfactory as the crops have sufficient moisture left by the previous rains to fall back upon. The garden crops in the division are in excellent condition generally. The early crops are being reaped.

Konkan.—Since the submission of the last report there has been no rain anywhere in the division. The early crops are being harvested and in many cases the harvesting is over and the threshing operations are in progress. The condition of the garden crops in the division is all that could be desired.

Deccan and Karnatak.—The lack of rain gives continued cause for anxiety in both these divisions. In the east of the Deccan and in the centre and the east of the Karnatak, *rabi* sowings are checked in places for want of moisture while the germinated seedlings are showing signs of distress for the same reason (*i.e.*, want of moisture). The crops in the Canal areas and those helped with irrigation generally are, however, proceeding satisfactorily."

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

The International Textile Deputation arrived at Ahmedabad on the 1st of December 1926. The deputation was received at the station by the President and Secretaries of the local Labour Union. The members of the deputation paid a visit to a few mills and also interviewed Mr. Gandhi at the Satyagraha Ashram. A special meeting of the Council of Representatives of the Labour Union was held to meet the deputation. At this meeting a few questions were put to the visitors and their answers are given below. The substance of some of the questions and answers is taken from the *Majur Sandesh* dated the 6th December 1926.

Question.—What is the system of fining in your country?

Answer.—In England no fine is imposed except in the weaving department. There is no fine imposed in the spinning and frame departments. In the weaving department fine is imposed on account of damaged cloth. On such occasions the Secretary of the Union goes to the mill and examines the damaged cloth. But when the workers are dissatisfied they get the question settled in court. We believe that fines are illegal and so when occasion arises we have recourse to courts of law.

In Germany before fines are imposed workers are given an opportunity to explain the reason for the damage and the final decision in regard to

fines is given by the Workers' Committee appointed in the mill. No fine amounting to more than one-eighth of the pay can be legally imposed. Therefore at the most only one day's pay can be cut. The amount, accumulated by way of fines, is utilized for the welfare of labourers and the Workers' Committee settles everything in regard to this.

Question.—What about the rates of wages of piece workers?

Answer.—There is a printed list of rates of pay. When new sorts are introduced the mill and the union consult together and settle the rates of pay.

Question.—Do women work in the mills?

Answer.—In the spinning department only unmarried girls are working. In the weaving department 75 per cent. of the workers are girls and married women are very few in number, *i.e*, nearly two per cent. only. In Germany only after the war women have started working in the spinning department.

THE SANITARY ASSOCIATION

The Sanitary Association conducted a round in Shahpur on 21st November 1926 and made certain recommendations to the Municipality regarding removal of rubbish and regular cleaning of privies in that ward.

The Association has appointed a Committee of medical men to enquire into the causes of the high rate of mortality in Ahmedabad during recent months and to suggest suitable remedies. It is understood that the Municipality also has appointed a similar Committee.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during November 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of November 1926. All Commissioners but one in the Presidency furnished information and out of a total number of 36 cases disposed of during the month, 34 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 13,959-15-0 was awarded as compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 15,955-15-0 awarded in the previous month and Rs. 11,492-13-0 in November 1925. Out of the 36 accidents for which compensation was claimed 12 were fatal and the rest of permanent partial disablement. The number of compensation cases in textile mills was 17, and in other industries 19. The corresponding figures for November 1925 were 13 and 9. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation were males over 15 years of age in all but two cases in which the claimants were females of over 15 years. Out of

the cases for which information is available 14 were original claims and 22 registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in 12 cases, one was dismissed and 23 agreements were registered.

Report of the Clerical and Commercial Education Committee.

The Report of the Committee appointed by Government to consider the question of clerical and commercial education in the Punjab has been published. The terms of reference of the Committee were to review the existing provision made for clerical training and report on its expansion and improvement, particularly in regard to the following matters :—

(*a*) To what extent is there a demand for this form of training ?

(*b*) To what extent is it practicable and advisable to extend the scope of these centres and classes ?

(*c*) Should the pre-matriculation centres and classes be converted into post-matriculation classes ?

(*d*) What steps should be taken to train suitable teachers for this form of training ?

(*e*) What steps should be taken to ensure adequate supervision of these classes and to conduct the necessary examinations ?

The Committee was also to consider whether there is a demand for more advanced training in subjects relating to commerce.

In the course of their report the Committee say that their enquiries have led them to the conclusion that the pre-matriculation classes are not suited to the needs and requirements of employers. The Committee therefore recommend that as far and as soon as possible the pre-matriculation classes and centres should be converted into post-matriculation centres with a two years' course.

As regards courses the Report says that the course should be one of two years as is now the case at the Central Model School. It is suggested that it might be possible to make necessary arrangements in case a candidate desires to attend only a portion of the course. The Committee consider the courses and curricula obtaining at the Central Model School, Lahore, to have been well-devised on the whole and to serve satisfactorily the purpose for which they are intended. The Committee, however, consider that it would be an advantage if the text-books were adapted to Indian conditions. The Committee desire to emphasise the importance of bringing their classes into closest touch with the business and commercial world and for this purpose they propose the appointment of an Advisory Committee which would be beneficial in many directions ; the formation of the courses and curricula ; the methods of teaching ; the conduct of the examinations ; the prescription of books ; and the institution of new classes. The main function of such a Committee would be to keep the classes and the students in touch with the world of business and, in particular, with the employer. The Committee should therefore include a number of men holding high positions in business.

The Committee consider that some system of apprenticeship of a student with an approved firm be devised and that the diploma holder who had completed the prescribed period with an approved firm might have the fact endorsed on his diploma. The Committee consider the present arrangement for the conduct of examinations satisfactory. But they feel it essential that these should be constantly under review by the Advisory Committee. The Committee desire to emphasise the value of the trained teacher in this as in other forms of teaching and suggest that suitable provision should be made for the proper training of teachers. In the Committee's opinion commercial classes should form part of a larger institution; the question should be reviewed after three years. The Committee find it difficult to estimate with any degree of accuracy the demand which exists for the appointment of students of the classes. But the experience of the Central Model School and of other similar institutions leads them to hope that the demand is considerable at any rate in Lahore and Amritsar. The Committee consider it desirable that new centres and classes should be located in suitable places and institutions after consulting the Advisory Committee. It is also proposed to appoint local committees for such classes. The Committee hope that greater opportunities of service will be given to students of these classes and suggest also that a suitable reference be made to the Government of India in regard to their requirements for clerical employment.

In respect of higher teaching in commerce the Committee recommend that provision should be made for advanced training in commercial subjects, but would suggest that, at the outset at any rate, the number should be limited and that efforts be made to enlist the most suitable material. In this connection the report says: "In the first place, we are of opinion that the only sure and sound foundation for specialised study is a good and suitable measure of general education. For this reason, we feel that the specialised education would be of little value unless it is preceded by a general course in an ordinary Arts College up to the Intermediate standard. And we also feel that the subjects included in that general course should be carefully selected with relation to the requirements of the specialised course which the students will undertake after the completion of the Intermediate stage. In the second place, we feel that the specialised course held after the completion of the Intermediate stage of education should be of a minimum of three years."

Women Workers in Italy

In the August, September and October 1926 issues of the *American Federationist*, there appears a series of three articles on the above subject by Signora Laura Cabrini Casartelli. The first article deals with the question of women workers and their wages, the second with trade unionism amongst women workers, and the last with the question of Italian legislation and woman labour.

It is pointed out in the first article that in Italy as in other countries, the number of women workers is steadily increasing. For instance, while in 1912 the number of women enrolled into the maternity insurance fund which covers two-thirds of all the female workers employed in the large industries was 425,733, it rose to 725,268 in 1924. The total number of women wage earners in Italy is estimated to be 1,500,000.

In July 1923, for which date the latest statistics are available, the number of women engaged in industry was 507,916 or 42·87 per cent. of the total number of persons employed. In certain industries female workers outnumber male workers. This is especially the case in the textile industries.

As regards wages, generally speaking, female labour is remunerated at a lower rate than male labour. In certain industries like the textile industry, however, women receive for the same kind of work the same pay.

The average daily wage of women employed in industry varies between 10 and 15 lire. In cotton, woollen and silk mills the average hourly wage of women is 1·79 lira.

In Italy, women workers have not taken much interest in trade unionism. But in spite of this, in December 1921, 160,000 women were organized in trade unions as compared with one million men. The trade union movement, however, began to collapse in 1921, and during the years 1922-24 women workers retired almost completely from the unions.

Legislation has been passed for the protection of women workers in Italy. Night work of women of whatever age is prohibited. Italy has not yet ratified the Washington Convention as regards work before and after confinement, but the law prohibits work during the month subsequent to child-birth or during only three weeks if the physician permits it. There is a system of maternity insurance to indemnify the woman worker for the loss of earnings subsequent to child-birth. A maternity benefit of 100 lire is given to which the state contributes 18 lire. The employer, the employee and the state all contribute to the maternity insurance fund.

The eight-hour day is the rule in Italy. The granting of rest periods when the daily hours of work exceed six are obligatory. Women of all ages must be granted rest periods totalling one hour if they work over six and not more than eight hours per day, and rest periods totalling one and a half hours when they work over eight hours. Women of all ages are granted a full day of rest in each week.

The law prescribes that in factories employing at least fifty women workers there must be provided a nursing room in the factory. Women workers who nurse their children are also permitted to leave the factory for fixed periods.

Women employed in industry and in commerce are required to insure against invalidity and old age. The law covers men also but discriminates considerably between the sexes in the matter of invalidity, old age, widows and orphans.

The wage rates of women industrial workers are regulated by collective agreements which provide minimum rates for each kind of work. These minimum rates are usually lower than the rates paid to men.

Deductions from Weavers' Earnings

INTERESTING ENGLISH CASE

The following case (*Riversdale Mill Co., Ltd.*, v. *Hart*) taken from the (London) *Times Law Report* for 12th November is of interest in view of the enquiry into Deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines which is now being conducted by the Labour Office. A copy of the Truck Act which was referred to in the judgments will be found in the November issue of the *Labour Gazette* on pp. 255-259.

Judgment in favour of the employers was given in an appeal from Bolton justices, which raised the question of the legality of the customary method of paying pieceworkers in the textile trades. It was stated during the argument (reported in *The Times* of 15th October) that a very large number of operatives would be affected by the decision.

The respondent, a woman textile pieceworker named Nellie Hart, preferred in the Bolton Police Court against the appellants, her employers, the Riversdale Mill Company, Limited, a claim under the Employer and Workmen Act, 1875, for the sum of 6*d.*, being the balance of wages alleged to be due to her and unlawfully deducted by the employers, who counterclaimed for 1*s.* in respect of damages sustained by them through the negligence of the respondent.

It was admitted that the respondent was negligent, and that the 1*s.* claimed by the employers was a fair claim for the damage done to the employers' cloth through her negligence.

The case stated found that it was the duty of the respondent to weave a good merchantable cloth by performing her work without negligence and in a careful manner; that she was to be paid for her work according to a standard list, an implied condition of which was that the prices in the list should apply to good merchantable cloth produced by the observance by the respondent of her duty as a weaver. There was a practice to pay more than the standard price if the materials provided by the employer were defective, as payment for extra work due to defective material. But if the workmanship of a weaver was bad or negligent, there was, and had been for many years, a custom to pay a sum less than the sum contained in the standard list—namely, the standard list price less compensation assessed by the employer of a reasonable amount in respect of the loss suffered by him for damage to his cloth. It was admitted for the purpose of the case that the deduction of 6*d.* was fair and reasonable and less than the actual loss caused to the employers.

The Employers' Contentions

The employers contended that section 3 of the Truck Act 1831, had nothing to do with a deduction for bad work; that the amount of wages "earned by" and the amount "payable to" a workman were not necessarily the same thing, but that in this case the amount shown in the standard list was not "earned" because some of the work was bad and that that amount was subject to a deduction for bad work. Nor was it "payable" to the weaver because the amount to be paid was the nett wage after the deduction, which formed no part of the wages. It was further contended

that the effect of the Order made by the Home Secretary on 3rd March 1897, exempting the cotton weaving industry from the operation of the Truck Act 1896, was to leave the industry free to make contracts permitting deductions in respect of bad work.

On the part of the respondent it was contended that the claim was based upon section 3 of the Truck Act 1831, and that the Truck Act, 1896, had no application to the case.

The justices were of opinion that the standard list was the rate of wages applicable and held that the employers had illegally deducted 6*d*. by way of fine from the wages of the respondent, and gave judgment for the respondent for 6*d*. On the employers' counterclaim the justices gave judgment in their favour for 1*s*.

The employers appealed.

Judgment

The Lord Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said that he had the misfortune to differ from the other members of the Court. The first question which arose was what was the amount of wages payable to the workman under the contract with the employers. The justices were of opinion that " the standard list was the rate of wages applicable," and that, in his view, was a conclusion of fact by which the Court was bound, there being ample evidence to justify it. The real contract between the parties was that wages for work done should be paid in accordance with the standard list, and that, if the workmanship were bad or negligent, the employers should be entitled to compensation—that was to say, to damages to be assessed at a reasonable sum by them. The scheme of the argument advanced on behalf of the employers was to get rid of any difficulty connected with deductions from wages by saying that no deduction should be regarded as having been made from wages, as the amount of the wages was not ascertained until the deduction had been made. From what were the deductions to be made? Apparently from some notional figure representing an ideal standard of wages which never became actual until suitable deductions had been made from it. If that were sound, both the Legislature and the Courts had wasted a good deal of time on problems connected with the Truck Acts.

In his opinion, " the entire amount of the wages " payable to the workman was the amount specified in the standard list and not that amount less an uncertain sum to be assessed by the employers by way of damages. If that view were correct, the case was concluded by the decision of the House of Lords in *Williams* v. *North's Navigation Collieries* (22 *The Times L. R.*, 372; (1906) A. C., 136), where it was unanimously held that section 3 of the Truck Act 1831, rendered illegal any deduction by an employer when he was paying wages other than the deductions expressly authorized by the Act.

Even if the so-called custom to make deductions for bad work had been acquiesced in by the workmen it would have been illegal as a contravention of the Truck Act 1831. If the appellants were right, no weaver in Lancashire would ever know with any certainty what his wages were to be—a state of things quite contrary to the spirit of the Truck Acts.

Mr. Justice Avory said that, with profound respect for the judgment of the Lord Chief Justice, he was unable to agree with it. In his view, the respondent was employed to weave a good merchantable cloth under an implied contract that she should be paid for her work according to a standard list, subject to a fair and reasonable deduction for bad work. It was admitted that 6*d*. was a fair and reasonable deduction in the present case, and, therefore the amount paid to the respondent less the 6*d*. represented the entire amount of the wages due to her.

The Statutes

He found nothing in the Truck Act 1831, that expressly forbade a deduction for bad work in the calculation of wages. Section 1 of the Hosiery Manufacture (Wages) Act 1874, expressly recognized the right to deduct for bad workmanship. Section 2 of the Truck Act 1896, impliedly recognized that deductions for bad work had theretofore been lawfully made in calculating the amount of wages due, and introduced a new protection for the workmen in respect of such deductions. Section 9 of that Act, however, provided that the Secretary of State might grant exemption from the provisions of the Act and, by an Order made on 3rd March 1897, the Secretary of State granted exemption in respect of persons engaged in all branches of the weaving of cotton in Lancashire. While that Order remained in force the employer was not affected by the provisions of the Act of 1896, and was entitled, as he was before that Act, to deduct for bad work in calculating the amount of wages due. He saw no difference in principle between the present case and that of any pieceworker, the amount of whose wages could not be calculated until it was ascertained at the end of the week what work had been done.

Williams v. *North's Navigation Collieries, Limited* (*supra*), and *Pritchard* v. *James Clay* (*Wellington*), *Limited* (42 *The Times L.R.*, 139; (1926), 1 K.B., 238) did not conflict with the view which he had expressed. *Chawner* v. *Cummings* (8 Q. B., 311) and *Archer* v. *James* (2 B. and S., 61) supported the contentions of the appellants. Neither in the statutes nor in the reported decisions was there anything which rendered illegal the method of calculating wages adopted by the appellants.

Mr. Justice Salter, in agreeing with Mr. Justice Avory, said that the appellants had not made any deductions from wages earned. They had made deductions from the standard list.

The appeal was, accordingly, allowed, with costs, leave to appeal being given.

Industrial Statistics in Australia

According to the Annual Labour Report for the year 1925, prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. Chas. H. Wickens), wholesale prices decreased by 2·2 per cent. during 1925, while the retail prices of food and groceries increased by 3·1 per cent. The cost of housing accommodation increased by 2 per cent. the combined increase of food, groceries, and housing accommodation being 2·7 per cent. The average

cost of food, groceries, and rent of houses, having five rooms, was 4·9 per cent. greater in November 1925 than in November 1924. Operations under Arbitration and Wages Board Acts during the year resulted in the making of 320 awards or determinations, while in addition 182 agreements were arrived at by parties, and later registered in the various courts. Changes in rates of wage brought about by these awards, determinations, and agreements during 1925 affected 1,262,209 persons, and resulted in an average increase of 1*s.* 1*d.* per week. The average nominal rate of wage at the end of December 1925 was for males 96*s.* 9*d.* and for females 50*s.* 7*d.* compared with 95*s.* 10*d.* and 50*s.* 2*d.* respectively for 1924. While wage rates increased during 1925, the cost of food, groceries, and housing also increased, and at a slightly greater rate, consequently effective or real wages were lower in 1925 than in 1924. There was a further decrease during the year in the average number of hours constituting a week's work as fixed by awards, etc. The average at the end of 1925 was 46·44 hours, compared with 46·66 in 1924, and 48·93 in 1914. An international comparison of wages and cost of food shows that, on the basis therein described, real wages are highest in Philadelphia, followed in the order named of Ottawa, Melbourne, London, Copenhagen. The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1925 was 499, involving indirectly and directly 1,128,570 workpeople in an estimated loss in wages of £1,107,544. The average percentage of unemployment recorded by trade unions in 1925 was 8·8, compared with 8·9 for the immediately preceding year. While the number of trade unions in the Commonwealth was less in 1925 than in 1924, the membership increased from 729,155 to 795,722, of whom 699,399 were males and 96,323 females. The membership of employers' associations increased from 77,930 in 1924 to 103,350 in 1925. (*From "Queensland Industrial Gazette," Brisbane, October 23, 1926.*)

The International Economic Conference

The International Labour Office has communicated to the Secretariat of the League, for the use of the members of the Preparatory Committee set up to make preparations for an International Economic Conference, a number of memoranda on economic problems which are of special interest from the point of view of labour. These memoranda deal with :—

(1) Fluctuations in the standards of living of workers in various countries since the pre-war period ;

(2) Migration movements ;

(3) Co-operation ;

(4) Cost of agricultural labour in various countries ; and

(5) Scientific management.

STANDARDS OF LIVING

This memorandum deals in turn with (1) wages calculated in gold value ; (2) real wages ; and (3) workers' family budgets.

MIGRATION MOVEMENTS

There are two memoranda prepared on this question, one dealing with emigration and the other with legislation concerning the movement of labour and affecting international migration in general.

CO-OPERATION

Two memoranda deal with the part which can be played in world economy by co-operation. The first analyses the results of enquiries relating to the comparison between the costs of distribution of private trade and those of consumers' co-operative societies. The second memorandum is devoted to a survey of the part which is played by the co-operative movement in certain agricultural products such as wheat and dairy produce.

AGRICULTURE

A preliminary memorandum has been prepared on "The relation of labour cost to the total costs of agricultural production," covering several countries. In a short introduction it is pointed out that labour cost in agriculture is a more varying factor than in manufacturing industry, because all productive factors in agriculture vary according to soil, climate, season, etc.

SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT

The memorandum on scientific management deals with the subject as relating to Europe, and forms a supplement to a report on "rationalisation." The main purpose of the memorandum is to show how the idea of the scientific organisation of labour is conceived in Europe. (*Abstracted from "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 15, 1926.*)

Forty-four Hour Week

EFFECT ON NEW SOUTH WALES INDUSTRIES

Advocates of the forty-four hour week declare that the reduction of hours from forty-eight to forty-four does not increase the cost of production since it does not affect the output. The validity of this argument is being tested by the evidence which the Commonwealth Arbitration Court is collecting in connection with an enquiry into the merits of an application of the Amalgamated Engineering Union for a general forty-four hour week

In his evidence before the Arbitration Court, Mr. James Fraser, Chief Commissioner of Railways in New South Wales, said that the actual cost of taking on additional employees in consequence of the forty-four hour week was £191,314 from the time it came into effect till 30th June. These men were employed to make up the time lost by the forty-four hour week. According to him the increased cost of wages and material attributable to the forty-four hour week to the railway and tramway services would be £557,000 for the year. The total increase represented an addition of 6 per cent.

Mr. Joseph Mark Deschamps, managing director of Hadfield's, Ltd., informed the Court that the production of his firm had fallen 15 per cent. per man an hour as the result of the forty-four hour week, although the reduction in hours was approximately only 9 per cent. He attributed the fall mainly to the dissatisfaction of the men who did not work so willingly since the forty-four hour week was introduced. As they were only paid for forty-four hours' work, their weekly wage was reduced. The managing director of Mort's Dock Engineering Co., Ltd., said that it was impossible to compare the work done in the forty-four hour week with the amount done in the forty-eight hour week. In 1924 the company had made a propeller which took 200 hours of labour and cost £21 6s. A similar job completed this year under the forty-four hour system had taken more than 226 hours and the cost had been £27 5s. 11*d.*

Mr. Bernard George Taylor, city manager for the Clyde Engineering Co., Ltd., also complained of the hardships caused by the introduction of the forty-four hour week. He said that he found it impossible to tender for locomotives overseas owing to the forty-four hour week. (*Abstracted from "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," October 14, 1926.*)

Labour Statistics

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Third International Conference of Labour Statisticians, convened by the International Labour Office, met in Geneva from 18th to 23rd October.

The agenda comprised :—

The classification of industries;
Methods of compiling statistics of collective agreements;
Methods of compiling statistics of industrial disputes; and
Methods of conducting family budget enquiries.

Delegates representing in most cases the national statistical services were present from the following countries :

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, British Empire, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Latvia Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Rumania, Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.

At the opening sitting of the conference, Mr. Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office, expressed his gratification to note that an increasing number of Governments followed the work which was being done in the direction of making national statistics internationally comparable. He called special attention to the importance of arriving at uniform bases for the compilation of statistics relating to industrial disputes and collective agreements, and thus facilitating the study of the means by which the claims of the workers are enforced and national and international legislation is supplemented.

On the proposal of the Belgian representatives, the conference unanimously elected as its chairman Mr. Hilton, Chief of the Statistics Division of the British Ministry of Labour.

The first few sittings were devoted mainly to methods of conducting family budget enquiries and methods of compiling statistics of collective agreements.

Special importance attaches to family budget enquiries, for it is on the basis of the data obtained by such enquiries that it is possible to arrive at an exact knowledge of the conditions of life of the various classes of the community. Such data also serve for the calculation of cost of living index numbers, on which wages are to a large extent based.

As regards statistics of collective agreements, these make it possible to follow the development of such agreements, which in the great industrial countries are gradually establishing a real labour code. With the help of such statistics also, it is possible to gauge more accurately the conditions of work of the great mass of the workers.

The Conference recognised the need for holding enquiries into family budgets every ten years, and for basing such enquiries on a considerable number of families which should be requested to keep daily accounts of income and expenditure over a sufficiently long period.

With regard to statistics of collective agreements, a keen discussion took place on the question whether it was actually possible to compile such statistics, having regard to the wide differences in the legal status given to collective agreements.

At its later sittings, the conference discussed statistics of industrial disputes. Such statistics make it possible to follow the development and determine the nature of industrial disputes. They serve also to illustrate various phases of the alternation of industrial activity and depression.

The conference considered at some length the problems involved in making an exact distinction between a strike and a lockout, and the best methods to adopt for determining accurately the results of disputes. It adopted on these questions as on those relating to statistics of collective agreements and family budget enquiries, a series of resolutions of which drafts had been prepared by the International Labour Office, and which will form a solid foundation for the work of establishing by progressive stages uniformity in statistics.

Finally, the conference considered the work done by the Office in connection with the compilation of an international schedule of the main industries, based on the industrial classifications employed for statistical purposes in the different countries. The conference approved a number of suggestions as to the lines on which this work should be continued, in collaboration with the League of Nations and the International Institute of Statistics. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 1, 1926.*)

Women and Children in China

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN CHEFOO

The Industrial Secretary of the Y. W. C. A. in Chefoo, North China, has communicated to the International Labour Office a survey of the

conditions of labour of women and children employed in the following occupations in workshops and factories in that city :—

(1) Examining hair nets ;
(2) Embroidering ;
(3) Sorting and hulling peanuts ;
(4) Winding silk ; and
(5) Packing matches.

As regards the first, the industry began in 1909 and in 1921, 17,000 women and girls were engaged in it. Owing to the change in fashions, however, the industry has declined and at present there are only about 2000 women and girls employed. In Chefoo there are no children under 12 years of age engaged in examining nets but in villages where the nets are made children often help in weaving them. Tuberculosis is very common among the women engaged in this occupation. The wages of women who examine nets are as follows :—

Unskilled workers and learners	up to 30 coppers* per day
Semi-skilled workers	30 to 40 ,,
Skilled workers	40 to 55 ,,
Forewomen	$15 000 to 20 000 a month.

In winter the working day is about 8 hours ; in summer it is 10, 11 or 12 hours.

As regards Embroidery, there are in Chefoo more than 25 small workshops. The workers in this trade are mostly young girls who are learning or have just learned the trade. The work is all piecework. Wages are slightly higher than in the hair net industry. An 11 or 12 hour day is common.

The peanut sorting and hulling trade is increasing rapidly. The largest proportion of the children employed in Chefoo are employed as peanut sorters. Over 3000 women and children worked at this trade during the winter of 1925-26. The wage paid is 16 coppers for sorting one bag of nuts. A good sorter can do three bags a day.

About 200 women and children are occupied in silk winding. The wages paid are low.

About 100 women are employed in a match factory where they work as packers. (*Abstracted from "Industrial and Labour Information," Genva, November 8, 1926.*)

Housing Conditions in Shanghai

AN UNOFFICIAL SURVEY

Mr. M. T. Tchou, Director of the Shanghai Benevolent Industrial Institution, has conducted recently an enquiry into the housing conditions of the working classes in Shanghai, from the report of which some extracts are given below.

The rise of modern evil housing conditions in China is attributed to the industrial changes whereby vast numbers of Chinese workers are attracted by the factories of the treaty ports and, owing to the absence of adequate housing, to the high cost of land and buildings, and to the high return on housing investments, are crowded into slums.

* 50 coppers = 5*d*.

These slums are described by Mr. Tchou as being so horrible that "their equal has never been seen in the Western world, nor in China in past generations, except in abnormal times of famines, floods and similar calamities."

Rough estimates place the number of industrial workers in Shanghai at 450,000, including about 30,000 ricsha coolies and 50,000 wheelbarrow and wharf coolies. The average number of people per home in China is about four; as, however, many of the working people are children or single persons, the total industrial working population of Shanghai is about two and a half times the above figure—nearly 1,125,000, or almost 70 per cent. of the population of the whole city. The living conditions of the Shanghai workers, therefore, are those of seven-tenths of the city.

The average income of the working family in Shanghai has not yet been determined accurately. It is known, however, that the average income of an adult male varies between $ 10 Mex. and $ 15 per month. Adding the earnings of his wife and children, the average family income does not exceed $ 20. Of this total not more than one-sixth, or $ 3·33, could be spent on shelter. As a matter of fact, the majority of the working population do not spend more than $ 2 per month on rent, while a large number of them spend less than $ 1.

In order to obtain a survey of housing conditions among the working classes, several sections of the city were canvassed by investigators. Questions were asked as to the size of the family, occupation, construction details and cost of the house and land, lighting and ventilation, water supply, fuel, communication, conditions of tenancy, etc.

Results of the Enquiry

The main results of this investigation may be summarised as follows:—

(1) The highest grade of housing consists of two-storied "li" tenements closely built in terraces separated by narrow passages. There are subterranean channels for drainage, and water is usually supplied by means of one tap for a row of houses. Feeble oil or electric lamps are placed at long distances for public illumination. Walls are of brick, and the rest of the structure of wood, with a tiled roof. Floors are built of bricks and cement, or occasionally of wooden boards. The total floor area upstairs and downstairs varies from 400 sq. ft. to 600 sq. ft. There is a small kitchen at the rear, but no separate lavatory accommodation. The rent is usually from $ 7 to $ 9 a month, and this necessitates the living together of two, three or four families.

(2) The next grade of house is built similarly to that already described, except that construction is lighter and there is no "upstairs." Sanitary conditions are bad in the extreme. Overcrowding exists to a distressing extent, and children raised in such conditions are subjected to the demoralising influences of these squalid quarters, in comparison with which (it is stated) the slums in European countries would be palatial residences. Rent varies from $ 2 to $ 4 a month.

(3) The third grade consists of hostels or dormitories run by private individuals and inhabited by men without families. The worker pays a monthly fee varying from 30 cents to 80 cents for a shelf on which he places

his bedding and belongings. These are often places where social evils find easy prey—gambling, opium-smoking and heavy drinking, as well as other dehumanising vices are to be found here. Vermin overrun such places. Besides workers in factories, a large number of ricsha, wheelbarrow and wharf coolies live under such conditions.

(4) Another grade consists of houses and dormitories built by employers for their workers. This is general in the case of the cotton mills. A number of firms, notably Japanese, own a large number of houses which are rented to the workers at reduced rates.

(5) At the bottom of the social scale in Shanghai are the Northerners or "Kong-Peh" people, who number several hundreds of thousands. These are described as friendly and hard-working people who have come to the city to find a livelihood. Having no means and no relatives who can help them, they are subject to the worst possible hardships in making a living. As a result, Shanghai is now surrounded by a dotted chain of mud-hut colonies, the number of which is estimated at 50,000 and the number of tenants at between 200,000 and 300,000. A description of these huts and of the living conditions of their occupants is given by Mr. Tchou, as well as an account of the havoc wrought among them by fire, rain, etc.

Other topics dealt with in the report are the prevalence of illiteracy, the work of mothers in industry, the need of medical work, the slow awakening among the working classes, and the lack of public recreational facilities. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 8, 1926.*)

Housing Policy in Japan

For some time past the housing problem in Japan has been engaging the attention of the Bureau of Social Affairs, and, according to recent information, the Government is now taking steps to deal with the situation.

Slums, it is stated, have been growing in size and in number. The Metropolitan Police Board of Tokyo found by investigation in June 1925 that in the Tokyo Prefecture alone there were 10,939 houses sheltering 32,438 families, comprising a population of 385,138.

As the first step towards remedying the situation, it has been decided that the *Do-jun Kai*, a welfare society established in the Home Office, should undertake the construction of apartment buildings in the poor districts of Fukagawa, Tokyo. For this purpose the Society has been authorised to use the sum of 2,700,000 *yen*, representing the residue of the money originally given for the relief of earthquake victims in 1923 and handed over to the Society last year by the Government.

Similar action is to be taken in Osaka, Kyoto, Kobe, Nagoya and Yokohama.

The details of the scheme are still under discussion, but, broadly, the plan is to enable these cities to wipe out, in the course of some ten years, all the slum houses, to the total number of 15,000. In their place, modern apartment houses of three storeys are to be built in reinforced concrete.

The State Treasury will grant a subsidy up to one-half of the total expenditure involved, the amount fixed for the first year as the State's

contribution being 2,000,000 *yen*. It is intended that the work should be begun in 1927. The initial grant is meant to cover the following items :—

	Yen
Cost of building 1,400 apartments ..	1,260,000
Cost of acquiring sites for building ..	400,000
Cost of sheltering 967 families, temporarily.	260,000
Cost of acquiring houses to be demolished.	118,000
Cost of removal	7,000

It is proposed that the buildings to be erected first in the district of Fukagawa should accommodate approximately 130 families or households, each occupying two rooms. There will be two kinds of apartments on all floors, one having two rooms of six *tatami**, and the other a room of six *tatami* and a room of four-and-a-half *tatami*. The apartments will be fitted with gas, electricity, water bathing facilities, roof play-grounds for children, etc., and are intended to be " model " apartments in every respect.

No definite decision has yet been reached as regards rents, but it is estimated, taking as the basis the rent charged for houses of a corresponding type in the slums, that the rent chargeable will be about five *yen* per month for each two-roomed apartment.

In order to overcome any obstacles to the acquisition of the land required for the scheme, the Government have decided to make use of the Land Expropriation Act, which authorises expropriation of land " for charitable work." This decision was publicly notified in the *Official Gazette* of 22nd May last.

The Home Department has lately prepared an elaborate scheme of legislation concerning housing in general. This scheme includes :

(1) The establishment of a minimum health standard, dealing with ventilation, humidity, light, water, sewerage, room space and other hygienic considerations.

(2) The periodical inspection of dwelling houses by special inspectors appointed in each district.

(3) Strict control by the administrative authority. The administrative authority may order the repair, closing or demolition of any house if the inspector so recommends.

If the proprietor refuses to comply with an order for repair, closing, etc., the administrative authority may itself take the necessary steps and hold him responsible for the cost.

(4) The provision of Government loans for the construction of dwelling houses.

(5) The abolition of unhealthy dwelling quarters. The administrative authority may declare certain quarters unhealthy and order the city, town or village in question to improve them. In that case, the city, town or village in question may expropriate the land, order the removal of the residents from the houses, and build new houses in their place, in addition to taking other necessary measures. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 8, 1926.*)

* A *tatami* is approximately 3 feet by 6 feet.

Recent Legislation in Belgium

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Belgian legislation relating to workmen's compensation for industrial accidents has been amended by an Act dated 3rd August 1926.

According to this Act, both the maximum basic wage for the calculation of pensions and the income limit for employees to be covered by industrial accident insurance have been raised from 7,300 to 12,000 francs.

Other new features introduced are the establishment of a minimum basic wage of 2,500 francs for the calculation of workmen's compensation for apprentices, and a general increase in funeral benefits from 75 to 400 francs. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 1, 1926.*)

Adjustment of Trade Disputes in Germany

The German Federal Ministry of Labour has recently issued the annual returns for 1925 relating to the work of conciliation committees and individual conciliators, appointed in accordance with the Order of 30th October 1923 relating to conciliation.

The number of disputes dealt with in 1924 and 1925 was as follows :—

	Conciliation committees	Individual conciliators
1924	16,480	2,095
1925	12,360	1,058

In 1925, 338 disputes were withdrawn before the conciliation authorities took action, and these are not included in the above figures.

Of the 12,360 disputes considered by conciliation committees, 692 were settled by the parties concerned before a date for conciliation proceedings had been fixed; 1519 were settled during preliminary proceedings (*Vorverfahren*); 9617 were dealt with by adjustment boards (*Schlichtungskammern*); and the remaining 532 were otherwise disposed of.

Of the 1058 disputes brought before individual conciliators, 172 were settled before or during preliminary proceedings, 803 were acted upon by adjustment boards, and 83 were otherwise disposed of.

The disputes dealt with by adjustment boards were settled as follows :—

	Brought before	
	Conciliation committees	Individual conciliators
Conclusion of agreement	1,162	123
Arbitration award	7,686	666
Other decision	769	14
	9,617	803

In 4,629 cases one or both parties refused to accept arbitration awards. In such an event, Article 6 of the Order provides that, if the settlement contained in an award appears just and reasonable with due consideration for the interests of both parties, and if its application is desirable for economic and social reasons, it may be declared binding by the competent conciliator or the Federal Minister of Labour. This course was followed in 601 cases in all. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 18, 1926.*)

The Extent of Under-Employment

The results of the 1924 Inquiry into Earnings and Hours of Labour, which are being published in instalments by the Ministry of Labour, include the first comprehensive statistical survey of the extent of short-time working. Two years have elapsed since the date to which the figures relate, and in many industries there have been appreciable changes in the position, but the statistics have much significance in that they throw considerable light on the value of the percentages of workers unemployed as a measure of the relative depression in different industries. The methods adopted for the curtailment of production are necessarily dependent on the circumstances under which the various trades are carried on. In some cases, such as the manufacture of pig-iron, it is necessary to close down works entirely as the alternative to full employment. In others, such as the cotton industry, it is possible to provide work for a proportion of the operatives for part of the week. In cases of the first category it is to be expected that the percentage of workers unemployed will be high, and in those of the latter somewhat low, though there may be actually comparatively little difference in the relative depression as measured by the extent to which production is restricted. This feature is illustrated by bringing together, for a few industries, the unemployment percentages and the statistics as to short-time working, which are now available for a week in October, 1924:—

	Percentage Unemployed	Percentage on short-time	Hours lost per week by those on short-time
Wool	8·0	18·2	10·6
Railway carriage and wagon building	8·5	7·7	12·9
Chemical	9·0	2·4	8·4
Pottery	10·9	14·8	13·0
Cotton	11·6	17·2	14·0
Bleaching, dyeing etc.	13·0	39·7	10·0
General engineering	15·2	6·4	8·8
Marine engineering	17·0	2·6	12·8
Pig-iron manufacture	17·3	3·1	20·8
Smelting and rolling of iron and steel	23·4	15·9	13·9
Shipbuilding	30·6	1·1	14·8

On the basis of the above figures it is possible to indicate by a series of index numbers the relative amount of under-employment in the industries specified. Assuming full employment to be represented by 100, the index numbers are as follows :—

Chemical.. ..	91	Marine Engineering ..	82
Railway carriage and wagon	89	Pig-iron manufacture ..	82
Pottery	88	Bleaching, dyeing, etc. ..	80
Wool	88	Smelting, etc., of iron and steel ..	73
Cotton	87	Shipbuilding ..	69
General Engineering..	84		

It will be seen that the relative position of the industries as indicated by the index numbers differs, in some cases appreciably, from that shown by the simple unemployment percentages which have hitherto been the only statistical measure available. The absence of figures in regard to short time has been a serious omission from our industrial statistics, and the illustration given above reveals the necessity for the collection of such figures at frequent intervals. (*From "Economist," London, September 25, 1926.*)

Earnings in Manufacturing Industries in the United States

The National Industrial Conference Board of New York (a body composed of representative national and State industrial associations, and organised to provide information and to facilitate discussion and co-operative action on matters affecting industrial development) has published a volume entitled *Wages in the United States*, which gives the results of a recent inquiry into wages in July, 1914, and from 1920 to the first quarter of 1926, in the principal branches of manufacturing industry, as well as in the railway service, public utility services, anthracite mining and building.

So far as the manufacturing industries are concerned, the report is based on an analysis of returns from 1,764 establishments in 25 basic industries, a list of which is given in the Tables below.

The total number of persons employed in all establishments covered by the inquiry was 743,227 in January, 1924, equivalent approximately to 20 per cent. of the wage-earners enumerated at the 1919 census of manufactures in these 25 industries.

In all except a few cases, the data include returns from identical establishments throughout the period from 1920 to the present year. For the purpose of comparing present conditions with those preceding the war, it was decided to obtain data for a pre-war month, for which purpose

July, 1914, was chosen. It was impossible for some of the establishments furnishing data for the investigation to provide figures for this month; but a large proportion of them were able to do so.

The wage data contained in the report relate to cash payments only, and do not take into consideration the value of such wage equivalents as reduced rents or free lodging, etc. Hourly earnings were obtained by dividing the total weekly pay-roll for each group of wage-earners by the total actual hours worked by that group; weekly earnings were obtained by dividing the total weekly pay roll for each group of wage-earners by the number of persons in that group. In computing the average earnings for industry as a whole, the average earnings for each industry were weighted by the number of wage-earners in that industry, as reported in the 1919 Census of Manufactures.

Since the middle of 1923, average hourly earnings of all wage-earners in the establishments covered by the enquiry have remained almost constant. During this period, they have never exceeded 56·2 cents, nor have they dropped lower than 55·5 cents.

The following Tables show (1) the average hourly and weekly earnings of male unskilled, male skilled and semi-skilled and women workers in the 25 manufacturing industries covered by the report, in the first quarter of 1926, and (2) the percentage increases represented by these earnings over the earnings in the same industries in July, 1914 :—

(1) Average Earnings in First Quarter of 1926 in 25 Manufacturing Industries

Industry	Male—Unskilled		Male—Skilled and Semi-skilled		Women	
	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings
	Cents	Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents	Dollars
Iron and Steel ..	49·8	28·01	68·9	37·28	..	..
Agricultural Implement.	47·7	24·46	64·6	32·57	41 8	20·46
Automobile ..	51·8	27·63	69·2	34·81	42·9	18·71
Electrical Apparatus ..	47·0	23·06	65·7	31·71	42·1	18·06
Foundry and Machine. Shop Products ..	49·0	24·73	63·8	31·73	36·4	16·30
Foundries	51·0	26·09	67·4	33·98	39·1	17·38
Machines and Machine Tools	47·2	24·23	61·7	31·19	38·0	16·23
Heavy Equipment ..	49·6	24·68	69·2	33·68	..	..
Hardware and Small Parts	45·2	22·23	58·8	29·20	36·8	16·53
Cotton—North ..	37·7	19·33	48·9	23·34	36·7	15·55
„ —South ..	25·3	13·00	35·2	17·89	28·5	13·55
Hosiery and Knit Goods.	37·7	17·47	61·7	29·60	36·7	17·07
Silk	47·5	25·92	59·5	27·89	37·8	16 97
Wool	43·9	20·29	54·2	24·89	43·1	18·51
Leather Tanning and Finishing ..	49·1	22·90	56·6	26·81	34·0	14·72
Boot and Shoe ..	40·0	18·98	54·1	24·71	37·6	17·12

Industry	Male—Unskilled		Male—Skilled and Semi-skilled		Women	
	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings
	Cents	Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents	Dollars
Chemical	50·9	27·62	59·8	30·82	43·0	17·52
Paint and Varnish ..	46·8	21·69	59·0	32·13	32·6	14·74
Paper and Wood Pulp ..	44·9	23·18	60·5	31·93	35·9	15·97
Paper Products ..	47·7	23·97	60·9	28·95	39·7	17·71
Printing and Publishing —Book and Job ..	46·9	22·91	87·5	41·70	39·3	17·88
Printing and Publishing —Newspaper and Periodical ..	48·2	22·03	95·6	43·61	47·1	20·67
Furniture	43·5	21·52	61·8	30·55	39·6	17·45
Lumber Mfg. and Mill Work	38·0	18·65	60·8	29·13	..	..
Meat Packing ..	45·1	22·46	55·8	28·04	37·5	17·48
Rubber	53·6	26·78	74·6	33·82	44·5	18·91
Average for all 25 Industries ..	47·5	24·21	64·2	31·55	39·5	17·35

(2) *Percentage Increase in Average Earnings, July, 1914—First Quarter, 1926, in the same Industries*

Industry	Male—Unskilled		Male—Skilled and Semi-skilled		Women	
	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings
	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase
Iron and Steel ..	142	150	115	94	..	..
Agricultural Implement.	112	103	127	123	152	129
Automobile ..	154	147	114	114	162	112
Electrical Apparatus ..	114	101	119	115	155	117
Foundry and Machine Shop Products ..	129	127	108	114	164	147
Foundries	136	137	133	136	157	163
Machines and Machine Tools	113	122	104	110	209	179
Heavy Equipment ..	118	107	117	94	..	..
Hardware and Small Parts	126	124	122	123	177	153
Cotton—North ..	124	117	142	118	140	101
,, —South ..	201	169	159	130	174	142
Hosiery and Knit Goods	120	78	151	127	135	122
Silk	132	106	151	132	154	129
Wool	147	117	161	120	175	126
Leather Tanning and Finishing ..	138	119	144	130	128	129
Boot and Shoe ..	117	97	128	93	124	92
Chemical	137	121	125	103	244	166
Paint and Varnish ..	63	43	92	97	119	111
Paper and Wood Pulp ..	104	98	127	109	149	143

Industry	Male—Unskilled		Male—Skilled and Semi-skilled		Women	
	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings
	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage Increase	Percentage ncrease	Percentage ncrease
Paper Products ..	140	118	157	130	186	160
Printing and Publishing —Book and Job ..	135	135	122	127	149	145
Printing and Publishing— Newspaper & Periodical	69	148	125	112	151	138
Furniture	143	176	144	139	166	146
Lumber Mfg. and Mill Work	96	79	133	114	..	..
Meat Packing ..	172	120	107	86	207	162
Rubber	156	141	162	144	146	115
Average for all 25 Industries ..	134	126	129	123	156	121

In addition to the figures reproduced in the above Tables, the earnings of all males combined and of all wage-earners combined are given in the report, in respect of each of the 25 manufacturing industries. The general averages of these figures are : average nominal hourly earnings in the first quarter of 1926, all males, $0·604 ; all wage-earners, $0·557, representing increases of 132 and 127 per cent. respectively over the earnings in July, 1914. The corresponding figures of weekly earnings are : $29·92, all males, and $27·27, all wage-earners, representing increases of 124 and 117 per cent. respectively.

In comparing the postwar with the prewar earnings given in the Tables, regard should be had to the fact that, according to the figures in the report under review, the average cost of living index number for the first quarter of 1926 was 169·4, as compared with 100 in July, 1914. The average general percentage increase in hourly real earnings in the first quarter of 1926 was, therefore, 38 for male unskilled, 35 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 51 for women workers ; for all males combined it was 37, and for all wage-earners combined, 34. The corresponding percentage increases in weekly real earnings were, 33 for male unskilled, 32 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 30 for women workers ; 32 for all males combined and 28 for all wage-earners combined.

With regard to the actual hours worked in the 25 manufacturing industries covered by the inquiry, it is stated that the average *actual* working hours per week in July, 1914, were 52·7 for male unskilled, 50·7 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 50·8 for women workers ; for all males combined they were 51·2 and for all wage-earners combined 51·5. In the first quarter of 1926, the corresponding figures were : 51·0 for male unskilled, 49·1 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 43·9 for women workers ; for all males combined they were 49·5 and for all wage-earners combined, 48·7. The average *nominal* working hours in July, 1914, for all wage-earners were 55 ; in the first quarter of 1926, they were 49·9. *(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.)*

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Returns for Fourth Quarter 1926

AN INCREASE OF 3·4 PER CENT. IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1926. The latest information for the fourth quarter of the present year is summarised in three tables on pages 352 to 367 of this issue. Table I gives the names of the Federations or Associations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the names of the principal office-bearers of each Federation, and the names of the affiliated Unions in each case. Table II gives, by localities or centres, the names of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the number of members in each Union and the names and addresses of the principal office-bearers. Table III shows the rates of membership fees for different classes of members, the average monthly income for the latest quarter for which information is available and the average monthly expenditure in the same way for each of the Unions given in Table II.

There were no outstanding features in connexion with the Trade Union movement in the Bombay Presidency during the quarter under review. Two more Unions of the lower grade staff and menials of the postal department were formed at Ahmedabad and at Miraj. The two unions of cotton mill workers in Broach—the Fine Counts Mill Labour Union and the Saraswati Mill Labour Union—which had been reported as carrying on a purely nominal existence for the last few months are now reported to be defunct. There was, however, one event of considerable interest and importance to the Indian labour world during the quarter under report, and that was the arrival in Bombay on the 19th November 1926 of a Delegation of the International Textile Workers' Association. The Delegation consists of the Right Honourable Tom Shaw M.P., P.C., Messrs. Hindle and Brothers (Lancashire), Schrader and Furtwaengler (Germany) with Miss Shaw, the daughter of the chairman, as secretary. The Delegation has come to India for the purpose of studying first-hand the conditions in the textile industry in this country with special reference to the operatives. The Delegation remained in Bombay for about ten days during which they visited the Labour Office of the Government of Bombay, several representative cotton mills, workmen's residential quarters in all parts of the city and a few other factories and workshops. Almost all the Unions in Bombay City organised meetings to welcome the delegation. The general tenor of the speeches made by members of the Delegation was an exhortation to Indian workers to organise themselves and to form representative Unions, for only by their own efforts could the workers secure better conditions and safeguard their interests.

3. The total membership of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency continued to show that steady increase which has marked the development of Trade-Unionism in this Presidency during the first three quarters of this year. As compared with 72,411 trade unionists

in September 1926, the number reported on 1st December 1926 was 74,875, an increase of 3·4 per cent. over the figure of the previous quarter and an increase of 52 per cent. over that of December last year. The total number of unions stands at the same figure as that reported in the September issue of the *Labour Gazette, viz.*, 56. Out of this number there are 22 Unions in Bombay City, 9 Unions in Ahmedabad and 25 Unions in the rest of the Presidency. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City rose from 43,746 to 47,068 or by 8 per cent. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions fell from 19,284 to 18,814 which was due almost entirely to a fall in the membership of the Weavers' Union from 3155 to 2400. The number of members of the Unions in the rest of the Presidency fell from 9381 to 8993 or by 4 per cent. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions in the Presidency since June 1922 :—

Summary Table showing the membership of the Unions

Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
u ne 1922 ..	22	57,914	..	Sept 1924..	21	47,242	— 5·0
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	— 8·87	Dec 1924..	36	52,277	+ 10·7
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	— 2 47	Mar 1925..	36	51,625	— 1·25
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	— 5·45	June 1925..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+ 5·08	Sept 1925..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	—18·77	Dec 1925..	38	49,318	— 8 97
Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+10 54	Mai 1926..	51	59,544	+ 20·73
Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5·4	June 1926..	53	64,572	+ 8·44
June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2·5	Sept 1926..	56	72,411	+ 12·14
				Dec 1926..	56	74,875	+ 3·4

The information in connexion with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency including Sind. The information for all the Unions affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association and the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union is procured from time to time from the Head Offices of these associations in Bombay. Every endeavour is made to include in the Quarterly Review all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, but it often happens that some Union or Unions do not notify their existence to the authorities concerned with the collection of the necessary information. It would be advisable both in the interests of the Unions themselves and of the Labour Office, if the persons who are concerned with the creation of new Unions notify their formation either to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence (Labour Office) at Bombay or to the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad.

Federations of Labour Unions

Table I on pages 352 and 353 of this issue shows that there are six Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—(1) The Central

Labour Board in Bombay ; (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association with its head office in Bombay ; (3) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union also with its head office in Bombay ; (4) The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union ; (5) The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union with its head office in Bombay ; and (6) The Labour Union in Ahmedabad. The last is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. For all practical purposes, however, it may be considered as a Federation. All the necessary information in connexion with the constitution of the first four Federations and the terms of affiliation of each of their members have been fully described in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 and March 1926. The constitutions of the two new Federations in Bombay—The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union and the Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union which have been reported on since September 1926—have not yet been decided upon. In the present article it is only necessary, therefore, to deal with those Federations whose activities were of particular interest during the quarter under review.

The Central Labour Board.—The Board has recently been directing considerable attention to Purity Mission work. It was successful in persuading the Excise authorities to refuse to grant licenses for opening 4 new liquor shops in industrial areas. Lectures were given on temperance, thrift and hygiene. The Board has also recently undertaken the work of making representations to the Municipality for improving sanitary conditions, where necessary, in densely populated labour localities. At the moment of writing it is engaged in organising the workers of the Asiatic Petroleum Company into a Union.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.—The most important feature in the activities of this Association during the last 3 months is the success which it has achieved in procuring from the Government of India a revision in the time scales of pay of the postal clerical staff in the city of Bombay, including suburbs, Poona and Ahmedabad. In Bombay, the old time scale was Rs. 60—60—70—3—115—5—150. The revised scale is Rs. 60 rising by 18 annual increments of Rs. 5 each to Rs. 150. In Poona and Ahmedabad the old scale was Rs. 40—40—45—3—54—4—130. The revised scale is Rs. 50—5—150. The Association states that the pay of selection grades, however, remains unchanged but in view of the anomalous position which has been created, Government have agreed to grant an interim compensatory allowance with effect from 1st October 1926 pending the revision of the pay of these grades. The scales of pay at other places are not affected and the Association has taken steps to represent the cause of the postal services at such places to the authorities.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.—At a meeting of the members of this Association which was held recently at the Prarthana Samaj at Girgaum under the chairmanship of Mr. V. G. Dalvi, Bar.-at-Law, it was unanimously decided that the rates of monthly subscription of members should be raised from annas 4 to annas 8 per head

in order to provide sufficient funds for carrying on extensive work in respect of the demands of the postmen with reference to a revision in their time scales of pay. The following resolution was adopted at this meeting :—

"This meeting of Postmen and Lower Grade Staff of Bombay held under the auspices of the Bombay Postmen's and Packers' Union, expresses its deep sense of disappointment at the complete inaction of Government during the last five years or more in the matter of revision of pay and prospects while the scales of pay of the Postal clerks have been twice revised during the period, and requests Government to bring about an immediate revision in the pay of postmen and packers of this Presidency in due consideration of the minimum demands submitted with reasons to the Government in March 1925."

An advisory committee has been formed in the Poona Post Office on which 2 members of the Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union have been made members. The International Textile Workers' Deputation visited the Office of the Union on the 26th November. On the 14th November a new Union of Postmen and Lower Grade Staff was started for the Satara Postal Division with its head office at Miraj.

The Ahmedabad Labour Union.—The Labour Investigator at Ahmedabad reports that the chief items of interest during the quarter under report for this Federation are (1) a decision not to demand bonus this year from millowners owing to the depressed state of the industry; (2) the postponement of the housing scheme and (3) the holding of the annual meeting of the Council of Representatives at Satyagraha Ashram.

The Union has just published its annual report for the year 1925. The report records a steady continuation of the different lines of work already undertaken before the commencement of the year 1925. Whereas during 1924 many new activities were inaugurated, the year under report was devoted chiefly to the work of consolidation. Endeavours were made to improve the efficiency of the administrative machinery of the Union in order to enhance the effectiveness of the various beneficent schemes in operation. The Unions are very strict in recording figures for membership. The figures given at any time represent the actual effective membership and not simply the numbers of members on the rolls of the different Unions. The membership of each Union is reported to fluctuate from fortnight to fortnight and though the total number over a certain period may be practically constant, changes in its character and composition are always taking place. Two rival forces are constantly at work. On the one hand the Union strives to increase its strength and draw more mills into the fold of its organization; on the other, there is a continual decline in membership and mills go on dropping off one after another. The latter is rarely a process of natural decay. It is not often that members lose interest in the Union and cease to regard it worth while to pay the Union dues. The decline, if any, is alleged to be due very frequently to the result of a deliberate strangling of the Union in some mills by the authorities of those mills. Notwithstanding this the report states that taking the mills as a whole the Union has more cause for gratitude for the sympathetic assistance given to it by the authorities than for complaint.

During the year under report the Labour Union office dealt with 1004 complaints including 73 brought forward as pending cases from the previous year. Of the 931 new complaints received, 592 were recorded by operatives of the throstle departments, 173 by those of the card, blow and frame departments, 114 by those of the weaving departments and the remaining 52 by those of other departments. Fifty-eight complaints were rejected as unreasonable or trivial. Seven hundred and ninety complaints were brought to a conclusion out of which 616 were successful, 36 were compromised, 16 were unsuccessful, and 64 were closed for other reasons. This left a balance of 214 to be carried forward to the current year's account.

The Union maintained two dispensaries and a hospital equipped for surgical work. In December 1925 there was accommodation for 20 indoor patients and the number of applicants for indoor accommodation is reported to be continually increasing. To meet a part of the excess demand, 10 beds have been added during the current year. The hospital has a female ward and special arrangements are made for maternity cases. During the year under report, 117 new patients were admitted for indoor treatment. The average daily attendance which was 8 in 1925 has been steadily increasing and stood at about 25 towards the end of this year. Seventy-one major operations were performed in the hospital. Outdoor relief was given to a total number of 9141 patients. The total expenditure under the head ' medical aid ' amounted to Rs. 9688-10-8.

At the close of the year 1925 the Labour Union was conducting 9 day schools and 15 night schools imparting instruction to 623 and 663 students respectively making a total of 1286 students as against 1166 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The average daily attendance amounted to more than 70 per cent. and the total number of teachers engaged amounted to 78, 43 of whom possessed training qualifications. Towards the end of the year a nursery school on the lines of the Montessorri system of education was opened to take care of children between 3 and 7. The total expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 26,644 out of which an amount of Rs. 15,000 was contributed by the Millowners' Association from the *Tilak Swaraj Fund.*

In addition to the above, the Union maintained a library and a reading room, published a weekly paper called the " Majur Sandesh," gave legal assistance where necessary, maintained two cheap grain-shops at Saraspur and Jamalpur, distributed an amount of Rs. 666-4-0 as victimisation benefit to 9 members, gave cheap loans, maintained a savings bank and assisted in the preferring of claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.—The officials of this Union state that they have been able to make no progress during the quarter under review either in the work of the re-organization of the Federation or in consolidating individual Unions formed owing to the silence of the Railway Authorities with regard to the several representations put up by the Federation for the removal of specific grievances. The Federation has also addressed several letters to the Railway Authorities asking for recognition of their individual Unions but have so far received no reply whatever to either the representations made for recognition or to those made for removal of grievances.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union.—The individual Unions which are affiliated to this Association are now engaged in the work of formulating its constitution. The Union has been successful during the quarter under review in procuring recognition from the Port Trust authorities on an agreement that 50 per cent. of the members of the managing committee should be Port Trust Employees and that within a period of 4 years the complete management of all the Port Trust Employees' Unions should be entirely in the hands of the workers.

PROGRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY

The Bombay Textile Labour Union.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of this Union during the quarter under review. The principal officers of the Union, Messrs. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., and R. R. Bakhale, were busy with the work in connection with the submission of the evidence of the Union before the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry) and with the arrangements which had to be made in connection with the stay in Bombay and the tour programme in India of the International Textile Workers' Deputation. There was no change in membership of the Union as very little time was found to carry on propaganda work. The average monthly income for the months of September, October and November 1926 amounted to Rs. 1186 and the monthly expenditure during the same period to Rs. 583. The Union organised two meetings at Madanpura and Kurla in order to enable the Right Honourable Tom Shaw and the members of the Labour Deputation to address the cotton textile workers in this city. Several meetings were also held at which resolutions protesting against the proposed reduction in the hours of work in cotton mills in Bombay, were adopted. The Union filed 19 suits with regard to withholding of wages out of which 13 were disposed of as a result of the parties coming to a compromise. The number of complaints received during the quarter amounted to 68 all of which are pending.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Limited.—The number of members standing on the rolls of the Society on 1st December 1926 amounted to 2337, and showed, in comparison with the previous quarter, an increase of 106 members. The following table shows the distribution of the members over the various railways in India :—

Railway Administration	Class of Members					Total No. of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
G. I. P. Railway	848	83	42	33	46	1,052
B. B. & C. I. Railway	71	20	14	25	28	158
M. & S. M. Railway	58	38	28	119	59	302
S. I. Railway	55	14	15	8	13	105
N. W. Railway	91	5	8	14	1	119
N. G. S. Railway	31	26	26	69	18	170
E. I. Railway	187	12	4	23	11	237
O. & R. Railway	15	13	3	2	2	35
Other Railways	62	21	26	44	6	159
Total ..	1,418	232	166	337	184	2,337

The numbers of members of the different classes shown against each Railway are those who definitely belong to one or the other of the 52 branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. The number of members on the rolls of the Society's Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund amounted to 1562 as on the 31st October 1926. The Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund had 100 members and the Family Benefit Fund 443 members on the same date.

The average monthly income during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 2550 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 2500.

Indian Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 14,973 to 15,064. The Union has been very busy during the last 3 months in connection with the work of re-organising its constitution. A meeting of the members of the Union was held on the 19th October under the chairmanship of Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. Mr. M. Daud, M.A., B.L., M.L.C., who represented the Indian Seamen at the 9th International Labour Conference held at Geneva in June 1926, was present at the meeting and addressed the members in connection with the various disabilities of Indian Seamen. He pointed out that there were five important grievances which existed among Indian Seamen to-day for the remedy of which it had become necessary to organise the various classes of Seamen into Unions. These were (1) recruitment; (2) unemployment; (3) inadequate and insufficient wages; (4) excessive working hours; and (5) insufficient compensation in cases of accidents.

In his speech Mr. Daud showed how the present system of recruitment came into being. He pointed out that under Section 18 of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1859, Local Governments are authorised to give licenses to persons for the purpose of recruiting Seamen and it was thus that recruitment was effected through brokers and Ghat Serangs. The system soon gave rise to "Salami"—a commission which is charged to a Seaman before employment is procured for him. Immediately after the war the 'Salami system' gave rise to such abuses that the Government of India, in view of the recommendations of the Genoa International Labour Conference of 1920 and also through the pressure of systematic agitation carried on by the Indian Seamen's Union at Calcutta, appointed a Committee in 1922 (Seamen's Recruitment Committee) to enquire into the abuses existing in the system of Indian Seamen's recruitment through licensed shipping brokers and Ghat Serangs. The Committee unanimously decided that the shipping brokers' and Ghat Serangs' system of recruitment had led to grave abuses which no mere amendment of detail would satisfactorily remove and they came to the conclusion that it was imperative to introduce an entirely new system which did not involve the employment of intermediaries. The Committee recommended that recruitment should be carried on by Employment Bureaus to be organised by the State. The recommendations of the Committee have borne fruit in Calcutta by the appointment of an officer in charge of a recruitment Bureau. But nothing had so far been done in Bombay. Mr. Daud told the meeting that he had mentioned this particular grievance in the last International Labour Conference and he got an assurance from the Government of India's representative that a new system of Seamen's

recruitment would be gradually introduced after detailed proposals in connection with the method of working had been gradually worked out. He asked Bombay Seamen to carry on a systematic constitutional agitation through their Union to get the recommendations of the Recruitment Committee enforced in the Port of Bombay in order to remove their long standing grievances. He thought that the vital question of unemployment would be considerably alleviated by a change in the method of recruitment.

With regard to the question of hours of work Mr. Daud pointed out that in European countries the hours of work of seamen are regulated by the National Maritime Board consisting both of shipowners and seamen ; but in view of the fact that there is no such Board in India, the regulation of working hours of seamen recruited in this country is entirely in the hands of the shipowners. He stated that Indian seamen were required to work for an unlimited number of hours on board ships, and that it was only through a continual agitation by the Unions in making representations in the matter to Government that pressure could be brought on the owners to bring the working hours of Indian seamen into line with those laid down for British seamen. With reference to insufficient compensation for accidents Mr. Daud pointed out that the question of compensation for accidents to Indian seamen is not governed by the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act but the British Workmen's Compensation Act of 1906 for ships registered in the United Kingdom and by other foreign Acts of those foreign countries where foreign ships are registered. As an Indian seaman cannot go to foreign courts in a foreign country to get his compensation he has to depend on the tender mercy of the agencies of those foreign shipowners. The result is that most of the accident cases to Indian Seamen are either not compensated at all or are compensated in a very poor manner. This difficulty was brought to the notice of the Government of India during the passage of the Workmen's Compensation Bill in 1923 and they were requested to include Indian seamen serving on foreign vessels in the Indian Act. The Government of India, however, promised that the matter would be considered after consultation with the Board of Trade and the India Office in London. As nothing has so far been done in the matter, Mr. Daud urged the meeting to agitate for the inclusion of all Indian seamen on all British ships within the working of the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act. In concluding his address, Mr. Daud urged that the Bombay and Calcutta Unions should be federated into one all India Seamen's Union and that an Annual Seamen's Conference should be held to ventilate the common grievances of all seamen in India.

On the various recommendations made by Mr. Daud, the following resolutions in connection with the questions of recruitment and unemployment of Indian Seamen were adopted at this meeting :—

(1) " This meeting urges the Government of India to abolish the system of Seamen's recruitment through shipping brokers and Ghat Serangs and respectfully requests them to enforce the recommendations of the Seamen's Recruitment Committee by establishing a Recruitment Bureau in the Port of Bombay without any further loss of time."

(2) " That in view of the grave problem of unemployment existing amongst Indian Seamen in this Port of Bombay, this meeting urges the

P. & O. and B. I. S. N. and other shipping Companies to recruit Seamen through the medium of the Union in order to minimise unemployment and to facilitate Seamen to get fair turns in their service."

The next matter taken up at the meeting was the question of determining the constitution. It was resolved that the Board of Management of the Union should be vested in an executive council consisting of 27 members—a president, a general secretary, a treasurer; three departmental vice-presidents in charge of the saloon, the deck and the engine departments of the Union; the three departmental secretaries, and 18 members to be elected in equal numbers by the three departments mentioned. The 9 office bearers are to be *ex-officio* members of the Council. All monies belonging to the Union are to be under the control of the Finance Board consisting of the president, the general secretary, the treasurer and the three departmental secretaries. No monies can be deposited or withdrawn without the signatures of 4 members of the Finance Board—the signatures of the president and the treasurer being compulsory. All accounts are to be passed and checked by the Executive Council. It was further resolved that all expenses should be sanctioned by the Executive Council and that the president shall have the power of sanctioning expenditure only up to Rs. 50 in a month.

The Union is now affiliated to the All India Trade Union Congress and also to the Provincial Committee of the Congress in the Bombay Presidency.

The Seamen's Union.—The number of members of this Union increased from 4000 to 6500 or by 63 per cent. during the last three months. The average monthly income amounted to Rs. 641 and the expenditure to Rs. 1036. The officers of the Union report that the work of the Union is not progressing as smoothly as it ought to, and the managing committee have approached Mr. Joseph Baptista, Bar.-at-Law, to form a committee which will not only possess the confidence of the members of the Union, but which would also lead to an amalgamation of the two Seamen's Unions in Bombay. This Union has not so far directed its attention to enlisting as members other classes of seamen, as has been done by the old Union.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandals.—The number of members of the Prabhadevi Mandal fell from 1795 as reported in the previous quarter to 1123. The fall in membership is stated to be due to the fact that only those members who pay their subscriptions regularly month by month are reported as being the number of members on the rolls. All members who have not paid their subscriptions up to the latest month are not included in the membership returns. The reasons ascribed for members not paying their subscriptions for the month of November are due to the fact that the operatives who were engaged in canvassing and in collecting subscriptions left their employments at their respective mills in consequence of which it became difficult to recover all the subscriptions of the members on the rolls of the Union. In addition to this, the officials of the Union were busy in preparing their written evidence to be submitted to the Tariff Board. In spite of this, Mr. Mayekar has been successful in securing 500 new members for his Union during the last three months.

On the 27th November, a mass meeting of millhands was held at the Prabhadevi Branch under the Presidentship of Mr. Dhondiraj Thenge to

welcome the International Textile Labour Deputation. The Union is making arrangements to open a free dispensary shortly for the use of its members. The membership of the Ghorupdeo Mandal increased from 424 to 446, and that of the Chinchpokli Mandal remained stationary.

Government Peons' and Menials' Union.—The number of members of this Union increased from 579 to 594 during the quarter under review. The distribution over different Government offices is as follows :—

New Custom House	141
Income Tax Office	110
High Court	89
Old Custom House	74
Secretariat	65
Accountant General's Office	48
Small Causes Court	40
Public Works Department, Secretariat ..	24
Police Courts	3
Total ..	594

In reply to their letter to the Government of India requesting Government recognition for the Union, the Union has been asked to make some suggested alterations in some of its rules. The officers of the Union are confident of obtaining official recognition as soon as the Trade Unions Act comes into operation.

The Port Trust Dock Staff Union.—This Union, as was pointed out in the September issue of the *Labour Gazette*, was formed on the 1st July 1926 and was able, in three months, to secure an effective membership of 1223. The Union increased its membership by 20 during the last three months.

The management of the Union is vested in a managing committee consisting of the office bearers of the union—a president, a general secretary, secretaries, two treasurers and not more than four vice-presidents—and the representatives of the workers elected by the members in proportion to one for each 200 members from each section.

The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.—This Union has added 103 new members to the number reported on for the previous quarter. The present figure of membership stands at 2064. There was no activity of particular interest during the quarter under review. An amount of Rs. 66-10-0 was given as death benefit in one case and during the months of September and October loans amounting to Rs. 683 were granted to 18 members from the funds of the Co-operative Credit Society of the Union. The amount standing at the credit of the Society on the 1st November was Rs. 1506.

The remaining Unions in Bombay City.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of the rest of the Bombay Unions. The latest information in connexion with the membership, income and expenditure of all Unions not specifically dealt with in this review, is given in Tables II and III printed on pages 354 to 367 of this issue.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the six unions of the cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been dealt with under the head "Federations of Trade Unions."

The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.—This Union shows a slightly increased membership during this quarter—6049 as at 1st September, 6104 as at 1st December. The average monthly income amounted to Rs. 225 and the expenditure to Rs. 425. The Secretary of the Union desires that a caveat should be added to the effect that the figures given for income and expenditure are merely averages for the last quarter and do not, in any way, represent the financial strength or otherwise of the Association, these averages varying according to the touring activities of the officials of the Association. Greater touring means larger expenditure as well as collection of more subscriptions. As a matter of fact these remarks apply to the income and expenditure figures for all Unions.

REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

In view of the winding up of the two Unions of cotton mill operatives at Broach, the majority of the remaining Unions in the Bombay Presidency outside the cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad are Postal Unions, affiliated either to the Bombay Presidency Postal Association or to the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union. The activities of these Unions are more or less confined to constitutional agitation for removal of specific grievances and for improvements in conditions of service. The remarks made under the headings of the two Federations of Postal Unions above therefore apply generally to the activities of the individual affiliated members as well.

Creches in Ahmedabad

There are about ten thousand women working in the cotton weaving and spinning mills in Ahmedabad. With a view to find out how far the children of these workers are looked after while the mothers are engaged inside the mills, a special form* was drawn up and information was collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office by personal visits to creches.

NUMBER AND DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT

The number of creches started in different years is given below :—

Year	Number of creches started
1917	1
1918	2
1919	1
1920	2
1921	2
1922	*Nil*
1923	1
1924	8
1925	6

The total number is 23. Out of these, two creches are maintained by the Ahmedabad Branch of the Bombay Presidency Women's Council. These two creches are mainly intended for the benefit of lorry women who are found in large numbers in Ahmedabad but mill workers also take advantage of them. Besides the twenty-three creches referred to above, six mills have places where women workers can leave their children but they have not been included as the millowners did not think they could properly be called creches and decided to give no particulars regarding them.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL'S CRECHES

The creches managed by the Women's Council are located in good buildings. The staff of each consists of an ayah, a trained nurse, a sweeper, a washerman and a chowkidar. In one of them the nurse herself teaches the grown up children whereas in the other a separate teacher is engaged for this purpose. The annual expenditure incurred on both the creches comes to Rs. 5000. There are 39 cradles in all and the average number of infants is 37. These children are washed daily and clothed neatly. The total quantity of milk given to the children daily comes to 7 lbs. in both the creches. The premises are kept neat and tidy. Kindergarten is provided for the grown up children.

Mill Creches

ACCOMMODATION

Among mill creches ten are located in good buildings. In the remainder there is not even good flooring. Adequate protection from heat, cold or rain is not provided and sometimes there is only a shed of corrugated iron sheets open on three sides.

*Printed at the end of the article.

The average area per creche is 998 square feet. The smallest measures 160 square feet and the biggest 2475 square feet. The area available per child is found by dividing the total area of each creche by the average number of children present in it. In this way 18 children are found to get 9 square feet each and 22 children 70 square feet each. The most usual area available is 30 to 40 square feet. Three hundred and thirty-four children get that much space per head. One hundred and eighty-nine children get 20 to 30 square feet each.

In the case of one mill the number of infants exceeds the number of cradles provided. The total number of cradles in all the mill creches is 788 which exceeds the total average number of infants present, 679.

Cradles are made either of cloth or of old gunny bags. Cradles made of iron or wood are not in use.

STAFF AND EXPENDITURE

Nurses, ayahs, teachers, sweepers and washermen constitute the staff of creches in general. Seven creches maintain no staff at all. The staff in eight creches out of the remaining fourteen may be said to be adequate. Only four mills have engaged trained nurses. Four creches have only one servant—an ayah, a sweeper or a female servant. In all there are fifty-three paid servants in the fourteen creches maintaining one kind of staff or another. Wherever there is a doctor in the mill he generally supervises the work of the creche. Seven creches incur no expenditure at all.

In the case of the fourteen creches reporting expenditure, the expenditure incurred ranges from Rs. 185 to Rs. 6000 each per annum. The average expenditure per creche is Rs. 1780. The total expenditure for all the fourteen creches is Rs. 24,920. The annual expenditure on each child works out to Rs. 47. The lowest *per capita* expenditure is Rs. 8 and the highest Rs. 164.

SANITATION

From the point of view of general cleanliness of the premises, fourteen creches may be classified as good, six as fair and one as poor. In one case the creche is situated very near the working machinery.

Seven mills have arranged for washing the babies and supplying them with clean clothing. Three more mills have no washing arrangements but supply the children with clothing. The remaining eleven mills have arranged for neither.

DIET

Seven creches provide milk for the infants. The quantity of milk given to each baby per day ranges from one-twelfth to one-third of a lb. Three mills supply barley and artificial infant diet like Mellin's food in addition to milk. The grown up children take the food brought by their mothers from their homes. In the case of breast-fed children mothers are allowed to go to the creches during working hours.

NURSERY SCHOOL

Three mills have provided nursery schools. These schools are intended for children between three and five years of age who are neither old enough to go to regular schools nor young enough to be confined to their cradles. Two of the nursery schools are worked well. Qualified teachers

have been engaged and the Montessori system is followed in one case. In the third mill the ayah is paid a few rupees more for teaching the bigger children.

Generally speaking no amusements are provided. Only one mill provides toys and another proposes to start some kind of amusement in the near future. Some mills allow play in the open air. This, however, usually means that except in cases where the creches are located in separate compounds, the children wander here and there in the mill premises.

GENERAL

Where creches are not provided, mothers engage old women or young lads or girls without work to take care of their children and pay them two rupees per month. These people do not take proper care of the children and the infants wander here and there in dust and are exposed to heat, cold and rain.

(*Specimen form of enquiry*)

CRECHES IN AHMEDABAD

1. Name
2. Locality
3. When and by whom started
4. Managed by
5. Financed by
6. The kind of staff employed, their number, whether voluntary or paid, part-time or whole-time
7. Annual expenditure
8. Age of admission
9. Number of cradles
10. Number of infants
11. Diet
12. Quantity of milk given
13. Washing arrangements
14. Supply of clothing
15. Number and dimensions of rooms
16. Material of which built
17. Ventilation
18. Sanitation
19. Is admission restricted only to children belonging to women workers in the mill?
20. Opening and closing time
21. Charges, if any
22. Amusements, if any
23. Details about Nursery Schools, if any
24. General remarks

Reviews of Books and Reports

Report on the Second Census on Live-stock, Ploughs and Carts in India, held between December 1924 and April 1925 (Government of India Press, Calcutta, 1926)

The first census of live-stock in India was held in the cold weather of 1919-20 and the second census with the results of which the report deals was conducted, except in the case of the Punjab and Bengal, during the year 1924-25. As in the case of the first census, several Indian States took part in the second census also.

It is seen that in 1924-25 there were 151 million head of bovine cattle as compared with 146 million in 1919-20 (in British India), or an increase of 5 millions or 4 per cent. There was an increase of a little over one million in the number of sheep which totalled 23 millions. Goats which numbered 24 millions in 1919-20 increased to 39 millions, the main increases occurring in the United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa, Madras and Bengal. Ploughs and carts showed a general increase, in each case by about a million, the former increasing from 24 millions to 25 millions and the latter from 5·7 millions to 6·3 millions. The total number of horses and ponies was about 2 millions, of mules 70 thousands, of donkeys 1·4 million and of camels over half a million.

The report also gives figures for 40 Indian States covering about 38 per cent. of the total area.

Three tabular statements are printed at the end of the report. The first gives the number of live-stock, ploughs and carts in each Province in British India in 1924-25, the second gives similar figures for each of the Indian States where the census was taken and the third gives comparative figures of cattle, sheep and horses in principal countries of the world in the years 1919 and 1924.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 7. (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Right Honourable Frederick Owen Roberts, M.P., Chairman of the Labour Party, by J. F. Shillaker.* pp. 291-293.
(2) *Russia and Ourselves. by Robert Williams.* pp. 294-296.
(3) *Labour's Agricultural Policy and the Liberals: A Reply, by E. F. Wise.* pp. 297-299.
(4) *Panic in the Liberal Farmyard, by T. P. Conwill-Evans.* pp. 300-301.
(5) *Irish Labour in Politics, by R. M. Fox.* pp. 302 and 303.
(6) *The Canadian Elections, by James Simpson (Vice-President, Trades and Labour Congress Canada).* pp. 304 and 305.
(7) *Labour and the Coming Nation, by W. Arthur Peacock.* pp. 306 and 307.
(8) *The Revival of Apprenticeship, by George W. Thomson (Editor of "The Draughtsman", the Organ of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen).* pp. 308-311.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 94. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *The Teaching of Citizenship, by W. H. Bolam, M.A., LL.B.*—Complex organisation of the State; preparation for citizenship; how far is this being achieved? comparison with America; can the juvenile workers be trained in citizenship? pp. 323-325.

(2) *Industrial Eyesight Examination.*—Scheme; distribution of the cost. pp. 325-328.
(3) *Machinery and the Operator.*—Laundry machines; leather working machines; miscellaneous machines; textile machinery. pp. 331 and 332.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 11. (Harvard Medical School, Baltimore.)

Special Articles. (1) *The Statistical Characteristics of Dust Phthisis (Pulmonary Silicosis), by Edgar L. Collis, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P. (Mansel Talbot Professor of Preventive Medicine, Welsh National School of Medicine).*—Data from mortality records, 1921 to 1923—bronchitis, pneumonia, phthisis; the coal miner; chronic nephritis; infectious characteristics, summary. pp. 457-465.
(2) *The Occurrence and Clinical Manifestations of Silicosis among Hard Ground Workers in Coal Mines, by Norman Tattersall, M.D. (Lond.) (Tuberculosis Physician, Welsh National Memorial Association.)*—Occurrence—drilling, relation to geologic formation, dusting, clinical manifestations—duration of exposure and latent period, initial symptoms, later symptoms, physical signs, radiography; silicosis plus tuberculosis; prevention—recommendations. pp 466-479.
(3) *Exposure to Silica Dust Without the Occurrence of Silicosis, by Patrick Heffernan, A.B., M.B. (Major, Indian Medical Service, Retired; Tuberculosis Officer, Derbyshire County Council).*—Introduction; action of inorganic dusts, silica brickmakers; discussion and conclusions, summary. pp. 481-489.
(4) *Experimental Silicosis, by E. H. Kettle. M.D. (Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, Welsh National School of Medicine).*—Mode of action of silica—on tissues, on growth of tubercle bacillus. pp. 491-495.
(5) *A Short Description of a Dust Trap to be Used in Conjunction with Percussive Rock Drills, by Captain P. S. Hay, A.M.I.E.E., A.M.I. Mech. E., (Safety in Mines Research Board, London).* pp. 496-498.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXII, NO. 6. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Public Pensions for Aged Dependents*—Importance of the Problem; progress of the movement in the United States; provisions of existing laws; Wisconsin and Montana laws in operation; criticisms of old-age pension systems now in force; old-age pensions in other countries; Australian old-age pension system; present English old-age pension system—scope of the system; contributions and benefits; qualifications. pp. 1-9.
(2) *Rights of Employees to their Inventions, by Lindley D. Clark, of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.*—Introduction; United States—general employees, employees under contract to make improvements; employment to develop employer's suggestion, summary; foreign countries—Austria, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland. pp 12-23.
(3) *Conciliation Procedure in the Administration of Justice in Norway, by Reginald Hebe Smith.*—Comparison of American and Norwegian conditions; basic law of 1824; parties appear in person; amendments extending the jurisdiction of the commissions; number of cases handled by conciliation; cases referred to law courts; effectiveness of the conciliation courts; act of 1915 increasing judicial authority of conciliation commissioners; conciliation system firmly established in Norway. pp 23-31.
(4) *Adjustment of Disputes between Railroads and their employees.*—Definitions; general duties; boards of adjustment—grievances—interpretation of agreements; board of mediation; functions of board of mediation; procedure in changing rates of pay, rules, and working conditions; arbitration; emergency board; general provisions. pp. 32-41.
(5) *Vacations with Pay for Wage Earners in Foreign Countries.*—Purpose and scope of investigation; development and present status of vacation movement; postwar development; classes of workers covered and enforcement of vacation regulations; social and economic effects of the movement; pp. 41-45.
(6) *Labor Recommendations in Governors' Messages, 1926.*—Agriculture and marketing; convict labor; the coal problem; workmen's compensation; injunctions in labor disputes; women in industry; housing. pp. 45-48.
(7) *Industrial Employment of the Negro in Pennsylvania.*—Employment of Negroes in the steel industry of Pennsylvania. pp. 48-51.
(8) *Labor Problems in China in 1925.*—Activities of two principal labor unions; student organizations; principal strikes in 1925; sympathetic strikes; demand for adequate labor laws. pp 51-56.
(9) *International comparison of trend of wages, 1914 to 1925.*—Wage situation, 1920 to 1925; movement of money wages, 1922 to 1925; movement of real wages, 1922 to 1925; comparison of wages of skilled and unskilled workers; relative wages of men and women; increases in the average compensation of municipal employees, 1915 to 1925. pp. 58-63.
(10) *Wages in the New York Cloak, Suit and Skirt Industry in 1925*—Variations in weekly wage rates, by type of shop; comparison of average wage rates of various occupations in 1924 and 1925; average actual earnings. pp. 65-68.

(11) *International Statistics of Gainfully Engaged Women.*—Numerical strength of gainfully engaged women; distribution by principal occupations. pp. 76-79.

(12) *Employment of Women in Oklahoma Industries*—Scheduled hours; earnings; working conditions. pp. 81-83.

(13) *Industrial Accidents to Minors.*—Work accidents to children in Pennsylvania; accidents to workers between 16 and 18 years old; work accidents to minors in Wisconsin in 1925; injuries to illegally employed minors in Pennsylvania. pp. 86-92.

(14) *Workmen's Compensation Law of Bolivia.*—Compensation benefits; security of payments; accident reporting; special provisions; work rules. pp. 102-104.

(15) *Workmen's Accident Insurance in Italy, 1923*—Insurance carriers; establishments and workers covered; distribution of insured workers by industry groups; accidents; comparative accident statistics, 1905-1923. pp. 107-111.

(16) *Building Permits in Principal Cities in the United States in 1925.*—Families provided for; housing trend, 1924 and 1925; housing in relation to population. pp. 112-125.

(17) *Industrial Disputes in the United States, 1916 to 1925.*—Place of occurrence of disputes; sex and organization of workers involved; causes of dispute; size of strikes; month of ending; results of disputes; time lost through disputes. pp. 134-144.

(18) *Alien Dependents of Deceased Workmen.*—Compensation awards in interstate commerce; time for bringing actions under Federal Liability Statute. pp. 151-156.

(19) *Chilean Law Governing Office Workers.*—Employment contracts; hours of labor and of rest; employment of minors; retirement fund. pp. 156-158.

(20) *Employment in Selected Industries in April, 1926.*—Comparison of employment and pay-roll totals in March and April 1926; comparison of employment and pay-roll totals in April 1925 and April 1926; per capita earnings; wage changes; indexes of employment and pay-roll totals in manufacturing industries; proportion of time worked and force employed in manufacturing industries in April 1926; employment and earnings of railroad employees, March 1925, and February and March 1926. pp. 159-169.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 10. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Combines Investigation Act, 1923: Enquiry into the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.* pp. 945-947.

(2) *Minimum Wage for Female Employees in British Columbia: Increase of Wage Rates in the Fruit and Vegetable Industry.*—Interpretation; experienced female employees; inexperienced female employees. pp. 948 and 949.

(3) *Report of House of Commons Committee on Legal Minimum Wages.* pp. 950-954.

(4) *Sickness Insurance: Outline of Voluntary Systems existing in Canada.*—Sickness insurance in Canada—Classes of employees admitted to sick benefits; total number of employees admitted to sick benefits, indicating the proportion to total number employed, risks covered, contributions, if any, of members—(*a*) rate of members' contributions; (*b*) annual total amount of members' contributions; contributions of employers—rate of employers' contributions, annual total amount of employers' contributions; benefits granted—(*a*) sickness benefit rules, nature and duration of benefits (daily allowance, medical treatment and drugs, etc.), (*b*) total annual amount of benefits paid, (c) average cost per diem of sickness; organization of medical service—(*a*) number of doctors and surgeons employed, (*b*) method of obtaining services of doctors, (c) choice of doctor by patient, (*d*) existence of dispensaries, clinics, rest rooms, sanatoria, etc.; conditions imposed to ensure financial stability; results of sick benefit plan—(*a*) in improvement of employees' health, (*b*) economic benefits to employer; efforts made towards avoidance of sickness through health talks, etc., pp. 955-957.

(5) *Observance of Sunday Rest in Pulp and Paper Mills in Quebec: Provincial Government will Enforce Observance of Lord's Day Act.*—Text of report of commission; letter to the Premier of Quebec; end of Sunday labour. pp. 958-961.

(6) *Workmen's Compensation in British Columbia in 1925.*—Methods of administration; accident prevention; accidents in 1925. pp. 962 and 963.

(7) *Trades and Labour Congress of Canada: Summary of the Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Convention.*—Report of the executive council; reports of committee on officers' reports; picketing and injunctions; report of the secretary-treasurer; report of union label committee; internal affairs; want buses designated common carriers; against trade schools; desire Canada shipping act amended; want shipping investigated; educational matters; minimum legislation; workmen's compensation; no restriction as to language; hours of labour; fair wage regulations; trade union unity; old age pensions; election act amendments; unemployment; local autonomy for the sale of beer; defeat demand for credits for Russian purchases; other resolutions adopted; passaic textile strikers; fraternal messages; election of officers. pp. 964-977.

(8) *Notes on Vocational Education and Apprenticeship.*—Travelling school in Northern Ontario; carpenters' apprenticeship classes at Hamilton; the provincial institute of Technology and art, Calgary. pp. 993-995.

(9) *League of Nations International Labour Organization.*—Participation of Germany in the international labour organization; Belgium ratifies eight-hour convention; hours of labour in

Japan; statistics of industrial disputes and collective agreements; bibliography of unemployment; bibliography of industrial hygiene; accident record in Ontario in 1926. pp. 995-997

(10) *Annual Census of Industry of Canada.*—Manufacturers of Canada, 1924; the rubber industry in Canada. 1925; fur production of Canada, season 1924-25. pp. 998-1000.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. II, NO. 10. (The Department of Labour, Brisbane.)

Special Articles: (1) *Brisbane Tram Strike "Off."*—Board of Trade takes Action; parties to confer: hopeful feeling of compromise—history of dispute, "unreasonable requests," strike ballot, a brief conference, mayor gratified, union secretary's comment, averting a crisis pp. 863-864.

(2) *Extracts from Third Annual Report on Operations Under the Unemployed Workers Insurance Act of 1922.*—Sustenance payments deferred; refused work; general remarks on casual and intermittent employment; statistics; analysis of sustenance payments on basis of industries. pp. 870 and 871.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

Labour in Far East

INDIA AND INTERNATIONAL INQUIRY

Lord Winterton, the Under Secretary for India, was asked in the House of Commons on the 29th November 1926 whether any communication had been received from the Government of India regarding the suggestion that the International Labour organisation might be asked to call a conference between the representatives of India, Japan and China on the question of labour conditions in those countries.

Lord Winterton replied that before giving any further consideration to the suggestion the Government of India preferred to await the results of the inquiry now being conducted by the International Labour Office. (*From "Statesman," Calcutta, December 1, 1926.*)

Current Notes From Abroad

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

An international congress on women's vocational guidance, organised under the auspices of the Bordeaux Chamber of Crafts, was held in that town from 23rd to 26th September last.

The main question considered by the congress was the situation of married women exercising a trade or profession, especially when the work is carried on away from the home, and the effects of such employment on their capacity to bring up properly a family of normal size.

Among many resolutions adopted was one calling for the prohibition of paid work by the mother of a family. The resolution demanded that:

(1) Girls' education should be such as to fit them for married life and household duties;

(2) That the wage earned by the father of a family should be sufficient to support the family, and that, where this is not so, the difference should be made up by the granting of family allowances;

(3) That women without children and, still more, fathers of families, should endeavour to increase their output, with a view to facilitating the gradual suppression of the employment of mothers;

(4) That children of indigent widows should be afforded care and protection either through social insurance or by national pensions legislation;

(5) That the foregoing ideas should be promoted among the working classes in all countries;

(6) That, as a first step towards the realisation of these ideas, married women should only be employed on part-time work, and that the necessary institutions should be set up to study the best means of giving effect to this.

Other resolutions adopted by the meeting related to vocational guidance for women in general and, in particular, in regard to agriculture, industrial and commercial occupations and the teaching, legal, public health, medical and social professions.

A special resolution, relating only to France, called for the allocation of a part of the proceeds of the apprenticeship tax to vocational guidance offices. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 8, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The Departmental Union of Hérault (affiliated with the C. G. T.) decided at its last congress to organise a Labour Art Exhibition which will form part of an International Trade and Industry Exhibition to be held by the city of Montpellier; it will be housed in the "Labour" Section of this Exhibition, which has been placed at the disposal of the Hérault Departmental Union. The exhibits will show the enemies of the eight hours day that the workers employ their free time in useful and educational occupations. Against the eight hours day it is, of course, often argued that the workers waste their free time when they have it: and the projected

exhibition is meant to refute such arguments, by showing what the workers can do in the most varied forms of art, applied art, technical inventions, etc., etc. To cover the costs (exhibitors are not to be put to any expense whatever) a catalogue is to be issued, with a preface containing contributions from Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office, Jouhaux, General Secretary of the French General Confederation of Labour, and Oudegeest, Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, October 28, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

At the recent congress of the Netherlands Federation of Trade Unions an extremely important resolution was passed to facilitate prompt assistance to foreign centres in case of great strikes. It was laid down that the Executive, in agreement with the affiliated organisations, may immediately place at the disposal of the foreign trade union centre a maximum amount of 10 per cent. of the total sum constituting the Dutch National Strike Fund. The same body may also make a loan to a foreign national centre, for which the same maximum total is fixed. It is expressly stipulated that all such aid must be sent through the intermediary of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

The Strike Fund of the Dutch National Centre was founded five years ago, and is maintained by a 3 per cent. weekly contribution on every member of the Federation. Relatively to the membership of the Centre, it is very strong: it amounts at present to over a million guilders. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, November 4, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

A National Insurance Commission was appointed in 1923 in the Australian Commonwealth. A preliminary report was presented last year, containing the results of the investigation of the Commission on the problems of casual sickness, permanent invalidity, maternity, and old age. A second preliminary report, dealing with the unemployment problem, was issued recently.

Briefly, the recommendations of the Commission in regard to unemployment are as follows:—

(*a*) That an unemployment council, comprising representatives appointed by the Government, the employers' organizations and the trade unions, be constituted:—

(*i*) To establish and supervise a national system of employment bureaus throughout Australia;

(*ii*) To regulate and supervise the existing private labour exchanges;

(*iii*) To collect, tabulate, and analyse detailed statistical data as to the supply of, and demand for, employment in the various industries throughout the year;

(*iv*) To conduct special inquiries as to the incidence and causation of unemployment in the various industries;

(*v*) To co-operate with private employers, Government departments, and local authorities in an endeavour to provide avenues of employment and to regulate the demand for labour;

(*vi*) To co-operate with the educational departments in an endeavour to institute an effective and extensive system of technical training;

(*vii*) To co-operate with the immigration departments with respect to the employment of immigrants;

(*viii*) To regularly furnish detailed information as to the trend of employment;

(*b*) That system of insurance against unemployment be instituted to meet those risks which are found to be unavoidable and where assistance to necessitous cases is warranted. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, October 1926.*)

* * * * * *

Although the Labour Movement of Australia works under exceptionally favourable conditions, there are, in addition to the comparatively small section of workers who are ineligible to join any organisation, still many thousands of workers who are not organised. Out of the total of 2,632,141 employees (male and female) 20 years of age and over, only 1,368,869 or a little over 50 per cent. are trade unionists. (In Germany and Britain the percentage is 50, in Denmark 90 and in the United States 12-13.) (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, October 28, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

The Workmen's Compensation Board of British Columbia in their annual report, states that compensation has given a marked impetus to safety work in the province. Accident prevention committees co-operating with the management have been active in many of the larger establishments and have been doing much real work in the interests of safety. The British Columbia Lumber and Shingle Manufacturers and the Shipping Federation of British Columbia have for over a year each had a full-time Safety Inspector organizing and directing safety-work along educational lines in the plants embraced in their associations. During the past year the Shingle Manufacturers' Association of British Columbia and the British Columbia Loggers' Association have taken a similar step. All four associations are now energetically endeavouring to maintain their plants to a greater degree of safety than heretofore. The periodical inspection of plants, machinery, and places of employment has been undertaken. Apart from the inspection work done by the Board itself, the inspectors under the "Boiler Inspection Act" and "Electrical Energy Inspection Act" now make their plant inspection and submit reports direct to the Board. The Board regards as promising this added service utilized for accident prevention purposes in a broader field than heretofore. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, October 1926.*)

A small but representative group of students of social questions in Japan, including Prof. Abe (of Waseda University), Prof. Suehiro and Mr. Bunji Suzuki, together with several members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, has recently succeeded in bringing together the Citizens' Labour School, the Tokyo Labour School, and five other labour schools in Tokyo, to form a "League of Eastern Labour Schools."

The inaugural conference of the League was held on 17th July 1926 at the Kyochokai Hall in Tokyo. Prof. Abe was elected Executive Director of the League.

The League, according to the constitution and rules adopted at this conference, will not only devote itself to workers' education as such, but will extend its activities to other fields, such as the promotion of *liaison* between labour schools, the publication of books and pamphlets on educational subjects, and the general investigation of the problems relating to workers' education.

The creation of the League is due in a large measure to the initiative and support of the Japanese Association for International Labour Legislation. This Association, it may be recalled, appointed last February a sub-committee on workers' education, which, after due investigation, adopted a resolution to the effect that a National League of Japanese Labour Schools should be formed. The establishment of the League of Eastern Labour schools may be regarded as a step in this direction. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 8, 1926.*)

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay ..	1. The Central Labour Board.	1. G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. 2. B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union. 3. Port Trust Workshop Union. 4. The Presidency Postmen's Union. 5. The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union. (*a*)	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad. *Vice President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla.
	2. The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.	1. Bombay Postal Union. 2. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union. 3. Poona Postal Union 4. Poona R. M. S. B-Division Union. 5. Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 6. Belgaum Postal Union. 7. Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 8. Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union. 9. Nasik Postal and R. M. S Union. 10. Ratnagiri Postal Union. 11. Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union. 12. Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union. 13. Baroda Postal Union. 14. Baroda R. M. S. Union. 15. Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 16. Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	*President*—Professor V. G. Kale (Poona). *General Treasurer*—G. K. Rahalkar (P. O. clerk). *Honorary Secretary*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B. (advocate). *General Secretary*—D. S. Joshi (P. O. clerk). *Joint Secretary*—V. H. Karandikar (Town Inspector). *Assistant Secretary*—V. G. Kulkarni, B.A. (P. O. clerk).
	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.	1. The Bombay Postmen's Union. 2. Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 3. Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union. 4. Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	*President*—Jamnadas Madhwji Mehta, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*—V. G. Kalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. H. D. Thakur, B.A., LL.B. *Treasurer*—E M. Bahadurji, B.A., LL.B., Solicitor.

(*a*) The name of the Union has been changed since January 1926.

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay—contd. ..	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.—*contd*	5. Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 6. Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 7. Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 8. Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union. 9. Satara Division Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1926.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. G. Warty, M.A. *Assistant Secretaries*—Dhondu Keshav Tendulkar Narayen Keshav Indap.
	4. The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union.	1. The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union. 2. The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union. 3. The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	(*Provisional.*) *President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Honorary Treasurer*—Kanji Dwarkadas. *Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road.
	5. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	1. The Wadi Bundar Staff Union. 2. The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union. 3. The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union.	(*Not yet appointed.*)
Ahmedabad ..	6. Ahmedabad Labour Union.	1. The Weavers' Union. 2. The Winders' Union. 3. The Throstle Union. 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. 5. The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union. 6. The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	*President*—Miss Anusuya Sarabhai. *Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union—January 1926.	*9,640	*President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Vice Presidents*— 1. R. S. Asavale. 2. F. J. Ginwalla. 3. S. K. Bole. 4. S. H. Jhabwalla. *Treasurers*— 1. Kanji Dwarkadas. 2. Syed Munawar.	*General Secretary*—R. R. Bakhale, Servants of India Society, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.—1897.	2,337	*President*—C. W. A. Gidney, Bhusawal. *Vice President*—R. Freeman, Igatpuri. *Treasurer*—C. R. Ray, Kalyan.	*General Secretary*—E. Woodfall, Maneck Building, Vincent Cross Lane, near G. I. P. Dadar, Bombay.
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union—April 1921.	15,064	*President*—J. J. Athaide, B.A., LL. B. *Departmental Vice-Presidents*— (1) *Saloon Department*—Antonio Ferrao. (2) *Engine Department*—Yeat Mahomed. (3) *Deck Department*—Yakub Hassan. *Treasurer*—N. M. Joshi, M. L. A.	*General Secretary*—Syed Munawar, B.A. *Departmental Secretaries*— 1. *Saloon crew*—S. A. Rebello. 2. *Engine crew*—Abdul Karim. 3. *Deck crew*—Mahomed Ibrahim.
	4	The B. B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union—July 1920.	1,733	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. *Vice Presidents*— (1) F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. (2) B. G. Horniman.	*Secretaries*—(1) S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. (2) F. J. Patel Bar.-at-Law, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Joint Secretary*—C. Bhukandas, Chargeman, B. B. & C. I. Railway Workshop, Parel. *Assistants*— 1. M. Bhagwandas. 2. J. Jhaivalla, DeLisle Road, Bombay.

*Approximate.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union—May 1919.	2,064	*President*—F. J Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Assistant Secretary*—V. P. Rele, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	6	The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union—March 1920.	812	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort. Bombay. *Vice-President*—W. H. Patil. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji. *Joint Treasurer*—Vishnu Maldse.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road, Mazagon. *Assistant Secretary*—Sadanand Waman Gadker, 2nd Carpenter Street, Mazagon.
	7	The Clerks' Union—April 1918.	907	*President*—A. R. V. Ranjit, Peerbhoy Mansion, Sandhurst Road. *Vice President*—Samuel Judah, c/o Messrs. Graham and Co., Parsee Bazaar Gate Street, Fort, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Mr. Subharao, c/o Messrs. Mather Platt and Co.	*Joint Secretaries*—1. Anant Padmanabh, C/o Messrs. Ramsay and Arnold, 11, Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, or Ravte Building, Banam Hall Lane, Girgaum. 2. S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building. Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpokli Mandal)—December 1923.	182	*President*—D. A. Bhatawadekar, Hejib's Chawl, Junction of DeLisle and Arthur Roads, Chinchpokli, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Shankar Dhaku Kusgaonkar.	*Secretary*—V. G. Sadvelkar.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City —contd.	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union*—January 1926 (This Union has taken over the Bombay members of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union founded in April 1918).	1,268	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice President*—V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law.	*Secretary*—K. S. Perulekar. *Assistant Secretary*—Dhondu K. Tendulkar.
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal)—August 1925.	1,123	*President*—Arjun Atmaram Alve. *Treasurer*—Bhiwa Tanu Alve.	*Secretary* — Dataram Ramchandra Mayekar, Nagoo Sayaji's Wadi, 30, Prabhadevi Road, Bombay.
	11	The Bombay Currency Association — 17th March 1923.	220	*President*—R. M. Dongre.	*Secretaries*— 1. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. 2. B. B. Acharya. 3. R. M. Cooper, Currency Office, Esplanade Road.
	12	Bombay Postal Union—1907. (Formerly known as the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club).	1,326		*Secretary*—D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay.
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal)—December 1925.	446	*President*—Shankar Kasiram Murkar.	*Secretary*—S. J. Khamkar, near Ghorupdeo Temple, Bombay.
	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union†—July 1922.	276	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43, Tarwadi Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.

*The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union, by which name this Union was formerly known is now an Association of 8 District Postmen's Unions.

†The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union since the 1st January 1926.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—concld.	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union*—February 1926.	594	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Hon. Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43, Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.
	16	The Seamen's Union—March 1926.	6,500	*President*—L. Pereira (temporary).	*Secretary*—Marcelin Crus, 72, Trinity Street, Dhobi Talao (temporary).
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employee's Union—April 1926.	41	*President*—N. M Joshi. *Vice-Presidents*—F. J. Ginwalla and Kanji Dwarkadas. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji.	*Hon. Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut.
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union—1920.	237	*President*—N. M. Joshi. *Vice-President*—A. B. Kolhatkar.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—B. K. Parab, B. P. T. Railway quarters, Jakaria Bunder.
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union—1926.	1,243	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-Presidents*:—(1) N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. (2) J. Barakhan. (3) C. C. DeSa. *Honorary Treasurer*—N. S. Parkar.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Honorary Secretary*—P. P. Carvalho, Assistant Shed Superintendent, Port Trust Docks.
	20	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union—1926.	420	*President*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate.	*Secretary*—P. S. Bakhale.
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union—1926.	135	Do. ..	Do.
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union—1926.	500†	Do. ..	Do.
		Total Members, Bombay City.	47,068		

* The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Government Peons' and Menials' Union to Government Peons' and Menials' Union. † Expected.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	2,400	*President*—Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Mirzapur Road, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Solicitor, Girdhurlal's House, Mandvini Pole, Ahmedabad.
	24	The Winders' Union—June 1920.	150	Do. ..	Do.
	25	The Throstle Union—February 1920.	6,370	Do. ..	Do.
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	2,930	Do. ..	Do.
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	475	Do. ..	Do.
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.-(March 1926).	100	Do ..	Do.
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920.	6,104	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Kharakuva Pole, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—B.N. Sandil, Bhow's Pole, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	209	*President*—N. M. Desai, B.A., LL.B., Raipur.	*Secretary*—D. S. Patel, Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Richey Road, Ahmedabad.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad —contd.	31	Gujarat Postmen's Union —August 1926.	76	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Kharakuva Pole, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary and Treasurer*—Ganesh Arjun Patel, Ragunath Bum's Pole, Sankdi Sheri, Ahmedabad.
		Total Members, Ahmedabad ..	18,814		
Sukkur ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920.	2,331		*Labour Organising Secretary*—Pandit Kanwal Nabh, Sukkur. *District Secretary*—S. K. Ram, N. W. Railway Union Office, Sukkur.
Karachi ..	33	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920.	3,000	[*Particulars not*	*available.*]
Poona ..	34	The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	110	*President*—John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	*Secretaries*— 1. G. T. Sakpal, Yeravda Prison Press, Poona. 2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City. 3. Krishnaji Shridhar Bande, Aryabhushan Press, Poona City. 4. D. S. Raihagkar, Govardhan Press, Poona City.
	35	Poona Postal Union—1919.	325	*President*—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, "Kesari."	*Secretary*—N. V. Bhonde, Poona.
	36	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union—1926.	249	Do.	*Honorary General Secretary*—R. M. Karlekar. *Joint General Secretary*—G. K. Joshi.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Poona—contd. ..	37	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1920.	236	*President*—G. K. Gadgil, Bar.-at-Law, Poona. *Vice-President*—D. V. Ambekar. *Hon. Treasurer*—B. G. Mohite.	*Hon. Secretary*—L. V. Jatkar. *Joint Secretary*—H. V. Jadhav. *Assistant Secretary*—V. M. Nisal.
Broach ..	38	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	22	*President*—H. D. Thakore.	*Secretary*—K. J. Mishra
Ahmednagar ..	39	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	387	 *	*Secretary*—Chabukswar, Ahmednagar.
Belgaum ..	40	Belgaum Postal Union—1920.	62		*Secretary*—G. V. Limaye, Belgaum.
	41	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	90	*President*—B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C.	*Secretary*—R. S. Kadum.
Dharwar ..	42	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	152	*President*—V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	*Secretary*—R. M. Betgiri, Dharwar.
Jalgaon ..	43	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	111	*President*—H. V. Kolhatkar.	*Secretary*—H. V. Modak.
Nasik ..	44	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	237	*President*—Rao Saheb Gogate.	*Secretary*—R. T. Lele, Nasik.
	45	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	72	*President*—A. B. Kachavale.	*Secretary*—B. K. Panse.
Ratnagiri ..	46	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	258		*Secretary*—A. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
Satara ..	47	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.	260	*President*—R. V. Deshpande.	*Secretary*—T. K. Datye, Satara

* Information not received.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Surat ..	48	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union —1921.	226		*Secretary*—B. N. Mistry, Surat.
	49	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	82	*President*—V. C. Jadhav.	*Secretary*—S. V. Vohra.
Baroda ..	50	Baroda Postal Union—1920.	173	*President*—C. M. Doctor.	*Secretary*—R. J Shah, Baroda.
	51	Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924.	196	*President*—Kalekar.	
	52	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	45	*President*—D. N. Chitre.	*Secretary*—B. B. Palekar.
Bhavnagar ..	53	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	75		*Secretary*—T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
Rajkot ..	54	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	138		*Secretary*—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Karwar ..	55	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	31	*President*—H. B. Kamat.	*Secretary*—L. V. Gaokar.
Miraj ..	56	Satara Division Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union —1926.	125	*President*—M. K. Attavle, B.A., LL.B., Sangli.	*Secretary*—Ismail Saheb Salati, Miraj
		Total Members, Rest of the Presidency ..	8,993		
		Total Members, Bombay Presidency ..	74,875		

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City— ..	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union.	1,186	As. 4 per month ..	583
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,550	Rs. 1-8-0 per month for those earning over Rs. 100 ("A" class members); Re. 1 per month for those earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 ("B" class members); As. 12 per month for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 ("C" class members); As. 6 per month for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 ("D" class members); and As. 3 for those earning less than Rs. 25 ("E" class members).	2 500
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union.	1,622	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,219
	4	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union.	662	As. 2 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50.	245
	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.	582	Do. ..	206

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City— contd.	6	The Port Trust Workshop Union.	341	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	165
	7	The Clerks' Union.	22	As. 4 per month ..	Nil
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpokli Mandal).	Nil	Re. 1 per year ..	Nil
	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union.*	474	As. 4 per month for postmen (overseers, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for packers (runners, local peons, boy messengers and packers).	403
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	188	As. 4 per month ..	272
	11	The Bombay Currency Association.	36	Rs. 3 for clerks and annas 8 for menials per year.	20
	12	Bombay Postal Union.	516	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	259
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	110	As. 4 per month ..	97

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City— contd.	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.*	76	As. 4 per month ..	53
	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union.	96	Do. ..	44
	16	The Seamen's Union.	641	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,036
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employees' Union	10	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.	52	As. 2 to As. 8 per month according to pay.	34
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	349	As. 8 per month for clerks and Superior Staff; As. 4 for adult menials and As. 2 for boy menials per month.	210
	20	The Wadi Bunder Staff Union.	125	Six annas and four annas per month according to pay.	25
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union.	40	As. 4 per month for clerical staff and As. 2 per month below clerical.	10
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union.	..	*Not Yet decided.*	
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union.	900	As. 4 per month..	175
	24	The Winders' Union.	..	As. 2 per month ..	

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ahmedabad—contd.	25	The Throstle Union.	1,250	As. 4 per labourer; As 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker per fortnight.	500
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	650	As. 4 per month ..	225
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union.	125	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fireman per month.	15
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	..	As. 8 per jobber or mukadam per month.	
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	225	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; and Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	425
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	61	As. 8 per clerk, As. 2 below clerk per month.	51
	31	Gujarat Postmen's Union.	..	Rupee one per annum per postman, and annas eight per annum per packer.	
Sukkur ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	300	Subscription at the rate of ½ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	8
Karachi ..	33	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	*(Particulars not available)*		
Poona	34	The Press Workers' Union.	4	As. 12 per year ..	About 2

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
	35	Poona Postal Union.	120	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	91
	36	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union.	82	As. 8 per clerk, sorter or inspector; As. 2 per mailguard and one anna per peon or porter per month.	72
	37	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	31	As. 4 per month ..	35
Broach ..	38	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	6	Do. ..	3
Ahmednagar ..	39	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	141	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	76
Belgaum ..	40	Belgaum Postal Union.	38	Do. ..	30
	41	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	7	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
Dharwar ..	42	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	66	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	33
Jalgaon ..	43	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	69	Do. ..	26
Nasik ..	44	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	31	Do. ..	23

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available.	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
	45	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	4	As. 4 per month ..	1
Ratnagiri ..	46	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	53	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	11
Satara ..	47	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	113	Do. ..	101
Surat ..	48	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	35	Do. ..	52
	49	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	6	As. 4 per month ..	7
Baroda ..	50	Baroda Postal Union.	46	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	14
	51	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	67	Do. ..	67
	52	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	10*
Bhavnagar ..	53	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	..†	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	 †
Rajkot ..	54	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	46	Do. ..	4
Karwar ..	55	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	8	As. 4 per month ..	8*
Miraj ..	56	Satara Division Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	..†	As. 4 per month ..	 †

* Approximate. † Not reported.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN NOVEMBER 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1926	1926		
1. The Simplex Mills, Clerk Road, Bombay.	175	...	3 Nov.	9 Nov.	In sympathy with a dismissed Jobber.	Strike ended in a compromise.
2. Jamshed Mills, Fergusson Road, Bombay.	225	...	18 Nov.	20 Nov.	In sympathy with a dismissed Jobber.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Ahmedabad Fine Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.	104	...	21 Nov.	25 Nov.	Demand for better wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
4. The Whittle Mill No. 3, Broach.	262	450	23 Nov.		Demand for higher rates of wages.	No settlement reported.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING NOVEMBER 1926

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Oct 1926	Machinery in motion — Nov 1926	Other causes — Jan to Oct 1926	Other causes — Nov 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Oct 1926	Fatal — Nov 1926	Serious — Jan to Oct 1926	Serious — Nov 1926	Minor — Jan to Oct 1926	Minor — Nov 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	449	35	255(b)	15	7	2	115	10	584	38	706	50
Woollen Mills ..	6	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	9	1	9	1
Others ..	7	..	2	1	..	..	2	..	7	1	9	1
Total ..	462	36	260	16	7	2	117	10	600	40	724	52
II Workshops—												
Engineering ..	25	4	300	21	..	.	13	2	312	23	325	25
Railway ..	136	16	1,483 c	136	3	..	51	5	1,566	147	1,620	152
Mint ..	1	..	3	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	4	..
Others ..	16	1	49	9	1	..	4	..	60	10	65	10
Total ..	178	21	1,835	166	4	..	70	7	1,940	180	2,014	187
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works .	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	4	..
Flour Mills ..	2	..	3	..	..	..	2	..	3	..	5	..
Printing Presses..	6	2	7	..	..	..	..	1	13	1	13	2
Others ..	11	..	39	1	1	..	6	..	43	1	50	1
Total ..	20	2	52	1	2	..	8	1	62	2	72	3
Total, All Factories ..	660	59	2,147	183	13	2	195	18	2,602	222	2,810	242

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Oct 1926	Machinery in motion — Nov 1926	Other causes — Jan to Oct 1926	Other causes — Nov 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Oct 1926	Fatal — Nov 1926	Serious — Jan to Oct 1926	Serious — Nov 1926	Minor — Jan to Oct 1926	Minor — Nov 1926	Total No. of persons injured: Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	230	17	108	9	3	..	32	3	303	23	338	26
Total ..	230	17	108	9	3	..	32	3	303	23	338	26
II Miscellaneous—												
Match Factory ..	1	.	5	..	3	..	..	..	3	..	6	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	2	..	6	..	3	..	..	..	5	..	8	..
Total, All Factories ..	232	17	114	9	6	..	32	3	308	23	346	26

Explanations :—"Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
(b) 3 persons affected by one accident.
(c) 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING NOVEMBER 1926—*contd.*

3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926
	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926		
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..	3	2	29	2	1	..	1	.	28	4	30	4
Engineering ..	3	..	16	..	..	..	1	..	18	..	19	..
Total ..	6	2	43	2	1	.	2	..	46	4	49	4
II Miscellaneous— ..	3	1	10	1	.	.	1	..	12	2	13	2
Total ..	3	1	0	1	..	..	1	..	12	2	13	2
Total, All Factories ..	9	3	53	3	1	..	3	..	58	6	62	6

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926
	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Jan to Oct 1926	Nov 1926		
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	89	15	80	4	4	.	26	7	139	12	169	19
Others ..	6	4	6	..	..	..	3	2	9	2	12	4
Total ..	95	19	86	4	4	..	29	9	148	14	181	23
II Workshops—												
Railway ..	39	3	185	16	.	.	16	4	208	15	224	19
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	5	1	6	1	.	..	3	2	8	..	11	2
Others ..	12	..	24	4	1	..	5	2	30	2	36	4
Total ..	56	4	215	21	1	..	24	8	246	17	271	25
III Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories .	6	.	15(*a*)	..	4	..	8	..	12	..	24	..
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	14	3	17(*b*)	1	5	1	8	..	20	3	33	4
Total ..	20	3	32	1	9	1	16	..	32	3	57	4
Total, All Factories ..	171	26	333	26	14	1	69	17	426	34	509	52

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(*a*) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. „ ..	5,780	926	7,441	37,828	39,039	49,265
Nos. 11 to 20 .. „ ..	17,450	6,359	19,924	123,693	120,461	131,279
Nos. 21 to 30 .. „ ..	12,434	4,711	13,841	92,558	85,785	102,294
Nos. 31 to 40 .. „ ..	1,120	601	1,783	8,838	7,575	11,978
Above 40 .. „ ..	501	209	998	2,929	2,768	6,024
Waste, etc. .. „ ..	10	8	96	77	288	754
Total ..	37,295	12,814	44,083	265,923	255,916	301,594

BOMBAY CITY

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. „ ..	4,927	71	6,476	33,348	34,047	43,760
Nos. 11 to 20 .. „ ..	11,586	63	13,487	84,589	73,484	89,342
Nos. 21 to 30 .. „ ..	7,319	66	8,089	57,175	50,729	62,823
Nos. 31 to 40 .. „ ..	682	3	768	4,882	3,643	5,512
Above 40 .. „ ..	317	2	392	1,672	1,499	2,350
Waste, etc. .. „ ..	2	..	88	20	227	686
Total ..	24,833	205	29,300	181,686	163,629	204,473

AHMEDABAD

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. „ ..	233	241	217	1,395	1,566	1,454
Nos. 11 to 20 .. „ ..	3,004	3,401	3,129	21,388	26,304	23,134
Nos. 21 to 30 .. „ ..	3,581	3,554	4,101	26,416	27,079	28,839
Nos. 31 to 40 .. „ ..	346	467	794	2,932	2,781	5,095
Above 40 .. „ ..	127	139	423	946	855	2,812
Waste, etc. .. „ ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,291	7,802	8,664	53,077	58,585	61,334

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi " ..	1,846	1,165	2,733	8,592	8,470	10,919
Chudders " ..	2,148	2,046	1,648	9,235	11,258	11,274
Dhotis " ..	5,158	7,093	7,093	40,190	46,504	53,442
Drills and jeans " ..	746	396	1,245	6,674	5,882	6,874
Cambrics and lawns " ..	25	32	42	437	337	195
Printers " ..	359	262	124	2,178	1,610	1,118
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	7,046	8,868	7,762	55,595	57,373	68,625
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	1,021	1,211	1,773	7,058	7,441	9,172
Tent cloth " ..	141	172	126	1,201	995	555
Other sorts " ..	443	346	400	3,496	3,413	3,004
Total " ..	18,933	21,591	22,946	134,656	143,283	165,178
Coloured piece-goods " ..	9,435	8,165	10,596	59,356	58,167	67,017
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods " ..	163	103	170	1,119	1,587	1,716
Hosiery " ..	19	16	15	94	133	151
Miscellaneous " ..	209	197	261	1,002	1,193	1,657
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	3	28	169	44	329	1,123
Grand Total " ..	28,762	30,100	34,157	196,271	204,692	236,842

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi " ..	1,178	591	2,453	5,956	6,474	9,735
Chudders " ..	1,550	1,281	1,054	5,820	7,701	7,937
Dhotis " ..	1,421	1,292	2,223	12,372	14,324	16,633
Drills and jeans " ..	649	242	1,142	5,980	5,000	6,302
Cambrics and lawns " ..	18	1	..	371	198	26
Printers " ..	..	..	..	24	19	..
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	5,058	5,926	5,933	39,899	41,896	53,080
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	851	742	1,329	5,737	5,412	6,542
Tent cloth " ..	27	30	102	493	609	461
Other sorts " ..	204	95	214	1,554	1,421	1,678
Total " ..	10,956	10,200	14,450	78,206	83,054	102,394
Coloured piece-goods " ..	7,483	5,198	7,613	46,812	42,268	47,693
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods " ..	154	99	162	1,078	1,527	1,658
Hosiery " ..	9	5	6	45	42	35
Miscellaneous " ..	106	168	214	823	989	1,351
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	3	14	129	30	293	734
Grand Total " ..	18,711	15,684	22,574	126,994	128,173	153,865

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	503	199	68	1,926	577	263
Chudders „ ..	449	601	437	2,684	2,790	2,509
Dhotis „ ..	2,896	4,972	3,962	21,711	25,189	30,085
Drills and jeans „ ..	11	36	14	171	347	179
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	6	30	41	58	124	165
Printers „ ..	225	217	52	1,434	1,023	580
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,544	2,496	1,376	12,712	12,393	11,681
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings „ ..	148	441	348	1,197	1,863	2,030
Tent cloth „ ..	102	126	..	650	334	10
Other sorts „ ..	161	179	99	1,276	1,384	723
Total „ ..	6,045	9,297	6,397	43,819	46,024	48,225
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	983	1,693	1,873	6,885	9,788	12,329
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	1	1	1	5	6	9
Hosiery „ ..	9	10	9	48	89	116
Miscellaneous „ ..	72	25	44	149	166	285
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	1	7	39	3	27	379
Grand Total „ ..	7,111	11,033	8,363	50,909	56,100	61,343

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Nov. 1925	Oct. 1926	Nov. 1926	July 1914	Nov. 1925	Oct. 1926	Nov. 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 8 9	6 10 8	6 6 10	100	139	142	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	9 5 0	..	..	100	166	..	..
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	75 0 0	76 8 0	77 8 0	100	167	170	172
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	63 8 0	52 0 0	57 8 0	100	159	130	144
Jowari	Cawnpore ..	Maund	3 2 6	4 3 9	3 14 8(1)	4 3 9(1)	100	134	124	134
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 13 11	4 3 9	4 3 9	100	148	129	129
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 1 3	5 13 1	4 13 11	100	155	177	148
Index No.—Cereals ..			..	..	..	..	100	153	145	144
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	5 4 8	5 3 0	5 8 1	100	125	123	130
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	7 6 6	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	131	135	135
Index No.—Pulses ..			..	..	..	..	100	128	129	133
Index No.—Food grains ..			..	..	..	..	100	147	141	141
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	16 8 0	16 14 0	18 10 0	100	162	166	183
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	12 8 3	9 8 5	9 8 5	100	159	121	121
Index No.—Sugar ..			..	..	..	..	100	161	144	152
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	10 12 0	7 7 9	7 5 7	100	193	134	132
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	85 11 5	77 2 3	77 2 3	100	188	169	169
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	145	136	136
Index No.—Other food ..			..	..	..	..	100	175	146	146
Index No.—All Food ..			..	..	..	..	100	155	143	144
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	12 4 0	10 10 0	10 10 0	100	138	119	119
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	11 6 0	10 14 0	..	100	142	136	..
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 9 0	14 10 0	15 8 0	100	125	134	143
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	14 2 0	15 8 0	..	100	126	138	..
Index No.—Oilseeds ..			..	..	..	.	100	133	132	131

Textile Cotton											
*(a) Cotton, raw**—											
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	..	350 0 0	..	100	..	139	..	
Oomra	Do.	,,	222 0 0	..	341 0 0	253 0 0	100	..	154	114	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	,,	230 0 0	..	360 0 0	..	100	..	157	..	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	,,	205 0 0	360 0 0	308 0 0	..	100	176	150	..	
Bengal	Do.	,,	198 0 0	320 0 0	291 0 0	240 0 0	100	162	147	121	
Index No.—Cotton, raw			..	..	..	.	100	169	149	118	
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 6 0	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	173	122	122	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	11 0 0	9 0 0	8 12 0	100	185	152	147	
White mulls	6,000	,,	4 3 0	9 12 0	9 10 0	8 14 0	100	233	230	212	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	,,	10 6 0	22 10 0	17 0 0	17 14 0	100	218	164	172	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 0	0 15 3	0 14 0	100	189	160	147	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	,,	0 9 6	1 0 6	0 15 3	0 13 3	100	174	160	139	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			..	..	..	..	100	195	165	157	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton			..	..	..	..	100	189	158	147	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 6 3	6 2 11	5 14 7	100	143	120	115	
Do.	Mathow Lari	,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 5 4	4 5 4	100	160	147	147	
Index No.—Other Textiles			..	..	..	..	100	152	134	131	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 14 7	1 11 3	1 12 10	100	165	147	156	
Do. Buffalo	Do.	,,	1 1 3	0 15 8	0 15 7	0 13 9	100	91	90	80	
Skins, Goat	Do.	,,	1 4 0	2 9 8	2 8 9	2 7 0	100	208	204	195	
Index No.—Hides and Skins			..	..	..	..	100	155	147	144	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	61 8 0	58 0 0	58 8 0	100	102	96	97	
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	6 12 0	100	175	163	169	
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	11 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	142	129	129	
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	14 0 0	14 6 0	14 10 0	100	156	160	163	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194	
Index No.—Metals			..	..	..	..	100	153	148	150	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	22 2 0	22 0 0	21 12 0	100	150	149	147	
Do.	Imported	,,	19 11 6	26 0 9	20 4 10	27 6 2	100	132	103	139	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 6	7 6 6	100	170	169	169	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	9 8 6	100	185	186	186	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles			..	..	..	.	100	159	152	160	
Index No.—Food			..	..	..	..	100	155	143	144	
Index No.—Non-food			..	..	..	..	100	162	149	147	
General Index No.			..	..	..	..	100	160	147	146	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

*For September and October, spot quotations for none of the varieties included in the index were available. The quotations for August were therefore repeated. Quotations for November are available only for the 'Oomra' and 'Bengal' varieties.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Nov 1925	Oct 1926	Nov 1926	July 1914	Nov 1925	Oct 1926	Nov 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p. (1)	Rs. a. p. (3)	Rs. a. p. (3)				
Cereals—										
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	60 12 0	65 12 0	59 4 0	100	156	169	152
Wheat, white	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 30 % red.	,,	31 8 0	51 0 0	43 12 0	42 8 0	100	162	139	135
,, red ..	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 92 % red.	,,	31 4 0	50 0 0	43 0 0	41 12 0	100	160	138	134
,, white	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	52 8 0	45 1 0	43 14 0	100	162	139	135
,, red	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	51 8 0	44 5 0	42 7 0	100	160	137	132
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	40 8 0	37 8 0	36 4 0	100	159	147	142
Barley	3 % dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	34 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	128	136	136
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	155	144	138
Pulses—										
Gram	1 % dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	38 8 0	40 1 0(2)	39 0 0(2)	100	131	136	132
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white ..	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 4 0	15 12 0	17 6 0	100	167	173	190
,, ..	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6	13 14 0		16 0 0	100	171	..	198
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	169	173	194
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	1 10 6	100	79	78	78
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	4 2 0	3 15 0	4 8 0	100	153	146	166
Rapeseed, bold	3 % admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0	72 4 0			100	142	..	
Gingelly	Black 9 % admixture ..	,,	62 0 0	83 0 0		84 0 0	100	134	..	135
Index No.—Oilseeds ..							100	143	146	151
Textiles—										
Jute bags ..	B Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	71 8 0	57 0 0	56 0 0	100	187	149	146

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw ..	Sind .	Maund	20 4 0	42 12 0	24 4 0	25 0 0	100	211	120	123
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	20 0 0	16 12 0	15 4 0	100	196	164	149
Shirtings	Liepmann's .	,,	10 2 0	22 8 0	20 0 0	19 0 0	100	222	198	188
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..						. ..	100	209	181	169
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..							100	210	161	153
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	44 0 0	39 8 0	37 0 0	100	157	141	132
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 12 0	12 0 0	13 12 0	100	65	56	65
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	13 12 0	12 0 0	13 12 0	100	65	56	65
Index No.—Hides ..							100	65	56	65
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	63 0 0	57 0 0	59 0 0	100	104	94	98
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	100	161	161	161
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	7 0 0	6 4 0	7 0 0	100	160	143	160
Index No.—Metals ..					. ..		100	142	133	140
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 4 0	22 0 0	100	144	133	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	100	183	183	188
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 8 0	100	165	163	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	164	160	165
Index No.—Food ..			...				100	149	139	142
Index No.—Non-food ..						...	100	153	136	139
General Index No. ..		. ..		. ..	. ..	. ..	100	151	137	140

*Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotations for Larkana, white. (2) Quotations for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1923														
November ..	125	90	228	365	189	138	303	235	187	161	174	158	185	186
1924														
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a)164	(a)158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a)100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 ,,	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105(m)
1916 ,,	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 ,,	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 ,,	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 ,,	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 ,,	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 ,,	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 ,,	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 ,,	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 ,,	157	170	144	(a)149	(l) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173(m)
1925 May	156	173	146	..	..	591	502	..	167	134	..	..
,, June	154	172	146	153	..	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
,, July	157	173	146	..	..	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
,, August	152	173	149	..	163	610	517	..	167	132	..	..
,, September	151	174	149	155	..	624	525	248	167	132	401	..
,, October	153	176	149	..	..	643	533	..	165	132	..	..
,, November	153	176	152	..	..	643	534	..	165	131	..	..
,, December	155	177	154	156	..	649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155	..	..	665	527	..	167	131	..	..
,, February	154	173	154	..	162	661	526	..	165	131	..	..
,, March	155	172	154	156	..	654	521	225	..	131	451	..
,, April	153	168	153	..	..	642	529	..	..	131	..	..
,, May	153	167	152	..	..	652	558	..	160	132	..	..
,, June	155	168	150	161	..	650	579	218	162	131	485	175
,, July	157	170	150	..	..	649	637	..	162	130	..	..
,, August	155	170	150	..	163	652	681	..	161	130	..	..
,, September	155	172	149	..	..	657	684	..	161	130	539	..
,, October	155	174	148	..	..	..	705	218	..	..	..	..
,, November	154	179	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, December	156	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100	..	100	100	100	(a) 100	100 (f)	100	100
1914 ,, ..	100	96	..	..	106	(e) 100	..	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,, ..		97	..	..	147	102	..	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,, ..		117	..	..	138	124	..	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,, ..		149	..	..	153	169	..	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,, ..	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,, ..	222	236	..	..	189	226	..	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,, ..	216	259	152	..	228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,, ..	199	200	150	..	175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,, ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,, ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,, ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
,, November ..	176	214	155	173	171	158	170	504	161	277	162	158	153
,, December ..	176	214	157	179	173	156	170	507	160	278	163	161	157
1925 January ..	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
,, February ..	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
,, March ..	171	204	160	179	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
,, April ..	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
,, May ..	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June ..	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
,, December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
,, August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
,, September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
,, October ..	147	..	171	..	..	..	152	..	..	..	142	..	..
,, November ..	146	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.
†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a)100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 "	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 "	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 "	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214 g	181	166	178
1918 "	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 "	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 "	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 "	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 "	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e)184	157
1923 "	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	126	218	160	(e)188	166
1924 "	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e)200	170
1925 April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
" May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	..	265	169	..	165
" June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
" July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
" August	147	168	146	119	156	152	..	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
" September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
" October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	..	228	166	..	163
" November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
" December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(j) 175	216	162	..	167
" February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1.076	..	212	160	..	163
" March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	..
" April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049		198	158	..	..
" May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
" June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	..	1,052	..	194	157	159	159
" July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	.	..	168	198	156	..	159
" August	153	161	150	117	157	149	.	587	660	..	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
" September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	..	652	.	1,110	164	..	157	..	158
" October	153	163	147	..	153	147	..	624	.	..	..	.	191	157	..	..
" November	152	169	..	..	..	146	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..
" December	154	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914=100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914=100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1926

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Oct. 1926	Karachi Oct. 1926	Ahmedabad Oct. 1926	Sholapur Oct. 1926	Poona Oct. 1926	Bombay Nov. 1926	Karachi Nov. 1926	Ahmedabad Nov. 1926	Sholapur Nov. 1926	Poona Nov. 1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p	Rs. a p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 *135*	8 8 6 *128*	8 14 3 *144*	8 6 9 *159*	8 12 8 *152*	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 14 3 *144*	8 6 9 *159*	8 7 10 *147*
Wheat		7 5 8 *131*	5 11 5 *136*	7 4 4 *154*	7 1 0 *137*	8 0 0 *149*	7 5 8 *131*	6 0 7 *143*	7 4 4 *154*	7 1 0 *137*	7 8 6 *140*
Jowari		5 12 6 *133*	4 14 2 *134*	5 5 4 *140*	3 9 3 *125*	5 10 9 *165*	5 9 10 *129*	4 8 1 *124*	5 5 4 *140*	3 11 8 *130*	5 5 4 *155*
Bajri		6 7 10 *150*	6 2 6 *146*	6 10 8 *142*	5 3 11 *149*	6 6 7 *156*	6 1 5 *141*	5 3 3 *124*	6 0 7 *128*	5 1 5 *145*	6 3 0 *151*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*137*	*136*	*145*	*143*	*156*	*134*	*128*	*142*	*143*	*148*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund ..	6 10 11 *155*	5 8 3 *145*	5 11 5 *143*	5 10 2 *131*	5 15 0 *122*	6 12 4 *157*	5 7 6 *144*	5 11 5 *143*	5 7 4 *127*	5 14 1 *121*
Turdal		8 1 5 *138*	8 6 9 *126*	10 0 0 *162*	7 15 4 *136*	8 14 3 *135*	8 1 5 *138*	8 10 5 *130*	10 0 0 *162*	7 15 4 *136*	8 14 3 *135*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*147*	*136*	*153*	*134*	*129*	*148*	*137*	*153*	*132*	*128*

Other articles of food -												
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	13 11 1 *180*	11 13 8 *163*	12 12 10 *160*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	13 11 1 *180*	11 13 8 *163*	12 12 10 *160*	12 8 9 *125*	2 15 3 *138*	
Jagri (gul)	,, ..	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	9 14 6 *141*	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	9 14 6 *141*	
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 4 *197*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 4 *197*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	
Salt	Maund ..	3 5 0 *156*	2 3 7 *169*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 14 4 *154*	
Beef .. .	Seer ..	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 5 8 *94*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 5 6 *92*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	
Mutton	,, ..	0 11 5 *171*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 11 3 *169*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 *191*	8 14 3 *200*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	8 14 3 *200*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	
Ghee	,, ..	95 3 10 *188*	74 6 8 *174*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	84 3 4 *163*	95 3 10 *188*	72 11 8 *170*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	
Potatoes	,, ..	7 2 3 *159*	7 7 1 *137*	7 4 4 *191*	6 10 8 *167*	5 9 10 *167*	7 2 3 *159*	7 8 6 *139*	8 0 0 *210*	6 10 8 *167*	5 8 3 *164*	
Onions	,, ..	5 15 3 *384*	3 5 11 *185*	3 5 4 *167*	4 0 0 *160*	2 12 11 *140*	7 2 3 *460*	4 2 6 *229*	3 10 2 *182*	4 7 1 *178*	3 3 10 *162*	
Cocoanut oil	,, ..	27 15 7 *110*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	
Index No.—Other articles of food ..	..	*188*	*170*	*164*	*156*	*151*	*195*	*172*	*167*	*157*	*151*	
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*171*	*158*	*158*	*150*	*149*	*175*	*158*	*159*	*151*	*148*	

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1923									
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, JANUARY, 1927 [No. 5

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

In response to the Labour Office circular letter, over 2000 completed schedules were received. The enquiry is now closed and its results are being tabulated.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of December 1926. The average absenteeism was 9·14 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·15 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0·97 per cent. for Viramgaum, 13·66 per cent. for Sholapur and 7·91 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13·31 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 11·06 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·90 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 6·60.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In January 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 156, the same as in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 155.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 146 for the month of December 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were two industrial disputes in progress during December 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 712 and the number of working days lost 1251.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During December 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 734 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for January 1927

INDEX REMAINS STATIONARY

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **56 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **55 per cent.**

In January 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 156 both in December 1926 and in January 1927. This is 37 points below the highwater mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point higher than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles registered a rise of one point, the fall of one point in food grains being offset by a rise of 4 points in other food articles. There was a fall of 2 points each in jowari and bajri but the index number for " cereals " remained the same. The fall of 6 points in " pulses " was due to a decrease of 10 points in gram which was partially counterbalanced by a rise of 4 points in the price of turdal. Amongst other food articles, potatoes advanced by 27 points, mutton by 10 points, ghee and salt by 5 points each and tea by 4 points. Raw sugar (gul) was cheaper by 7 points. The " other food " index was 188 as against 184 in the preceding month.

The " fuel and lighting " group remained stationary at 166. The index number for clothing declined by 5 points to 143.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922.	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	
May ..	73	07	63	53	50	56	53	
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November..	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between December 16 and January 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JANUARY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Dec 1926	Jan 1927	July 1914	Dec 1926	Jan 1927
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·547	7·547	391·58	528 29	528·29
Wheat	,,	21	5 594	7·354	7·354	117·47	154 43	154 43
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5 781	5·698	47·89	63 59	62·68
Bajri	,,	6	4·313	5·927	5·844	25 88	35 56	35·06
Total—Cereals ..	..	..	...	...	...	582·82	781 87	780 46
Index Numbers—Cereals ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*134*	*134*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·859	6·417	43·02	68 59	64·17
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	8 417	8 662	17 53	25 25	25·99
Total—Pulses ..	..	..	...	...	...	60 55	93·84	90·16
Index Numbers—Pulses ..	..	..	...	..	...	*100*	*155*	*149*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	14·287	14 287	15·24	28·57	28·57
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	14·287	13·693	59·90	100·01	95·85
Tea	,,	$\frac{1}{40}$	40·000	78 630	80·344	1·00	1·97	2·01
Salt	,,	5	2·130	3 219	3 313	10 65	16 10	16·57
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·510	0·510	9 04	14 28	14·28
Mutton	,,	33	0·417	0 760	0 802	13·76	25 08	26 47
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246 16	246 16
Ghee	,,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	50·792	94·047	96 427	76·19	141·07	144 64
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	8·333	9 536	49·27	91·66	104 79
Onions	,,	3	1·552	7·141	7·141	4·66	21 42	21 42
Cocoanut Oil	,,	$\frac{1}{2}$	25·396	28·573	28·573	12·70	14 29	14 29
Total—Other food articles ..	..	.	...	...	...	381·18	700·61	715 05
Index Numbers—Other food articles	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*184*	*188*
Total—All food articles ..	..	..	...	.	...	1,024 55	1,576 32	1,580 67
Index Numbers—All food articles ..	..	..	...		...	*100*	*154*	*155*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38 28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61 49	61·49
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0 787	0 771	0 54	0 79	0 77
Total—Fuel and lighting ..	..	..	...	...	...	60·44	100·56	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb	27	0·594	0·813	0·813	16·04	21·95	21·95
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	0·938	0·922	16·03	23·45	23 05
T. Cloth	,,	36	0·583	0·922	0 859	20·99	33·19	30 92
Total—Clothing ..	..	..	...	...	...	53·06	78·59	75 92
Index Numbers—Clothing ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*148*	*143*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total ..	..	.	...	...	...	**1,251·07**	**1,949·87**	**1,956·53**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.	..	..	...	.	...	**100**	**156**	**156**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in December 1926 and January 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

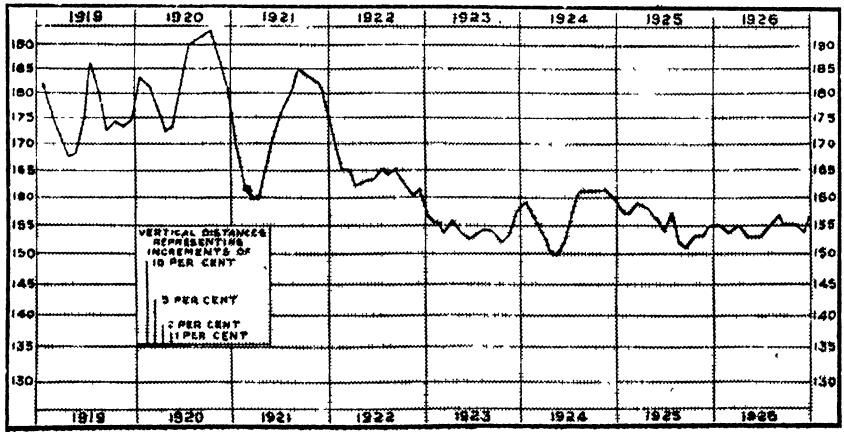
Articles	July 1914	Dec 1926	Jan 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Jan 1927 over or below Dec 1926	Articles	July 1914	Dec 1926	Jan 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Jan 1927 over or below Dec 1926
Rice ..	100	135	135	..	Salt ..	100	151	156	+ 5
Wheat ..	100	131	131	..	Beef ..	100	158	158	..
Jowari ..	100	133	131	— 2	Mutton ..	100	182	192	+ 10
Bajri ..	100	137	135	— 2	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	159	149	—10	Ghee ..	100	185	190	+ 5
Turdal ..	100	144	148	+ 4	Potatoes ..	100	186	213	+ 27
Sugar (refined).	100	187	187	..	Onions ..	100	460	460	..
Raw sugar (gul).	100	167	160	— 7	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	197	201	+ 4	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	154	155	+ 1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 26, Wheat 24, Jowari 24, Bajri 26, Gram 33, Turdal 32, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 38, Tea 50, Salt 36, Beef 37, Mutton 48, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 53, Onions 78, Cocoanut Oil 12.

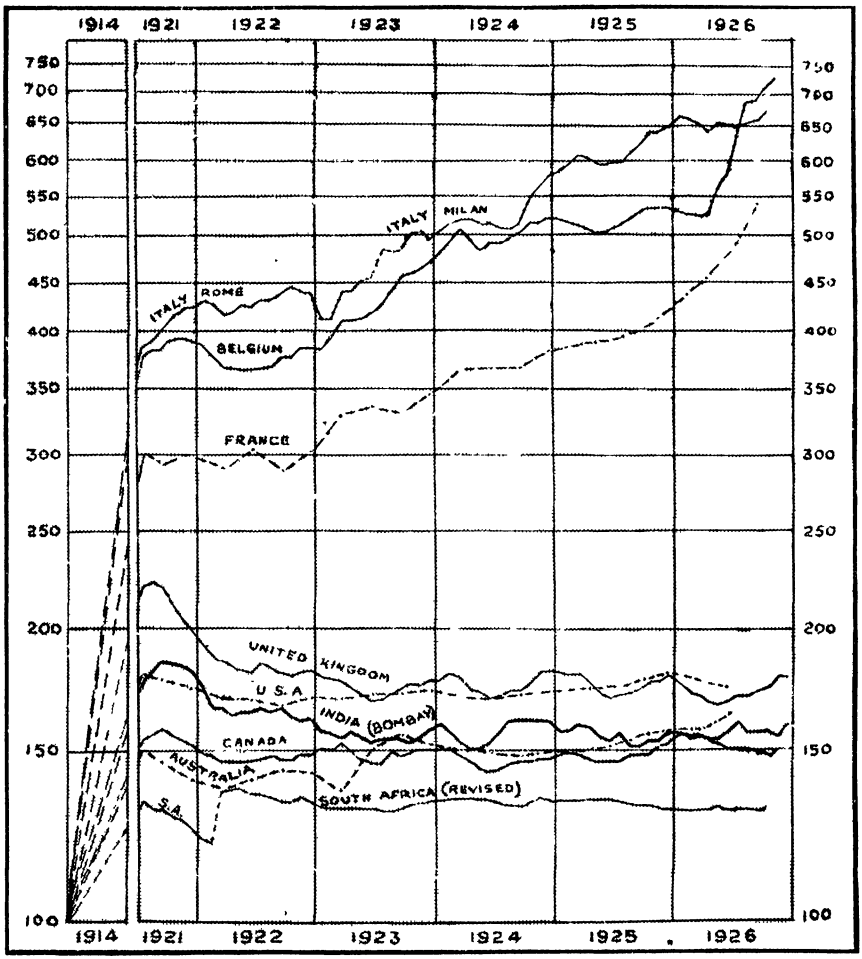
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 3 pies for all items and 10 annas 4 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos: (1) United Kingdom— Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa— Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922 and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Index remains stationary

In December 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 146, the same as in the previous month. As compared with November 1926, there was a fall of one point in the food group but the non-food group recorded no change. The general index number was 117 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 17 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

As compared with the previous month, the index number for food grains declined by one point to 140 due to a fall of one point in cereals and of 2 points in pulses. The price of wheat and gram declined by 7 and 3 points respectively whilst that of rice, barley and turdal remained the same. Jowari advanced by 3 points and bajri by 4 points.

There was a further rise of 4 points in " sugar " owing to a rise of 7 points in gul and of one point in sugar (refined). The " other food " index declined by 2 points to 144 because of a fall of 6 points in ghee.

Under the non-food group, there was a rise of 2 points in Oilseeds, of one point in Other textiles, of 11 points in Metals and of 6 points in Hides and skins. Raw cotton declined by 9 points, Cotton manufactures by one point and Other raw and manufactured articles by 2 points. The non-food average remained stationary at 147 during the month.

The sub-joined table compares December 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1925*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Nov 1926	+ or − % compared with Dec 1925	Groups	Dec 1925	Mar 1926	June 1926	Sept 1926	Nov 1926	Dec 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	− 1	− 4	1. Cereals ..	100	99	101	101	97	96
2. Pulses ..	2	− 2	+ 7	2. Pulses ..	114	109	120	121	124	122
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 3	+ 5	3. Sugar ..	90	88	92	95	92	95
4. Other food ..	3	− 1	−14	4. Other food ..	87	78	76	76	75	74
All food ..	15	− 1	− 4	All food ..	96	93	94	95	93	92
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 2	+ 3	5. Oilseeds ..	93	92	103	101	95	96
6. Raw cotton ..	5	− 8	−31	6. Raw cotton ..	84	76	75	79	62	58
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 1	−18	7. Cotton manufactures ..	92	90	88	84	76	75
8. Other textiles..	2	+ 1	−11	8. Other textiles.	96	94	85	86	85	86
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 4	+ 1	9. Hides & skins.	102	101	99	92	99	103
10. Metals ..	5	+ 7	+ 7	10. Metals ..	96	96	95	93	96	103
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	− 1	+ 2	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	98	97	93	96	101	100
All non-food ..	29	..	− 6	All non-food ..	95	92	90	90	88	88
General Index No...	44	..	− 5	General Index No.	95	92	92	91	90	90

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 464.

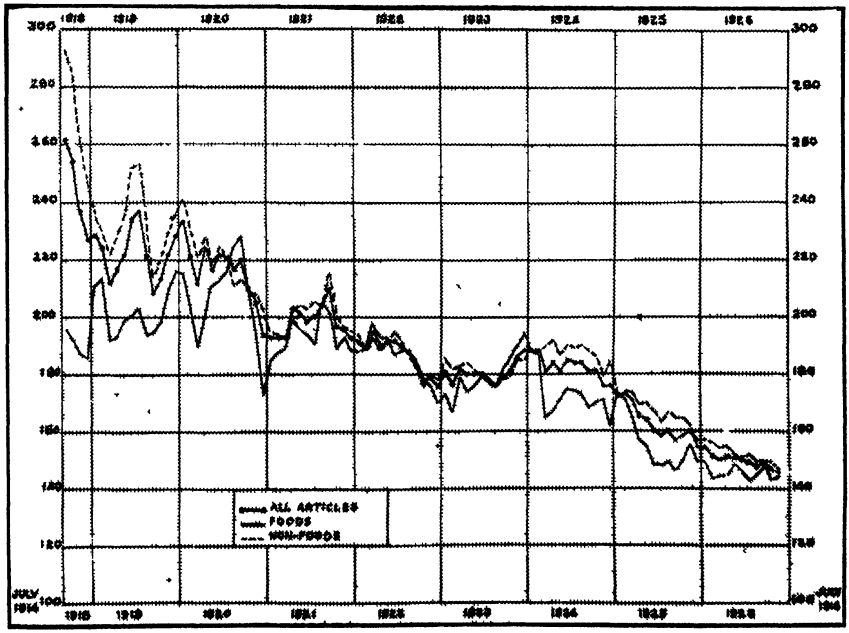
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

—	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926 .. .	145	152	149

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

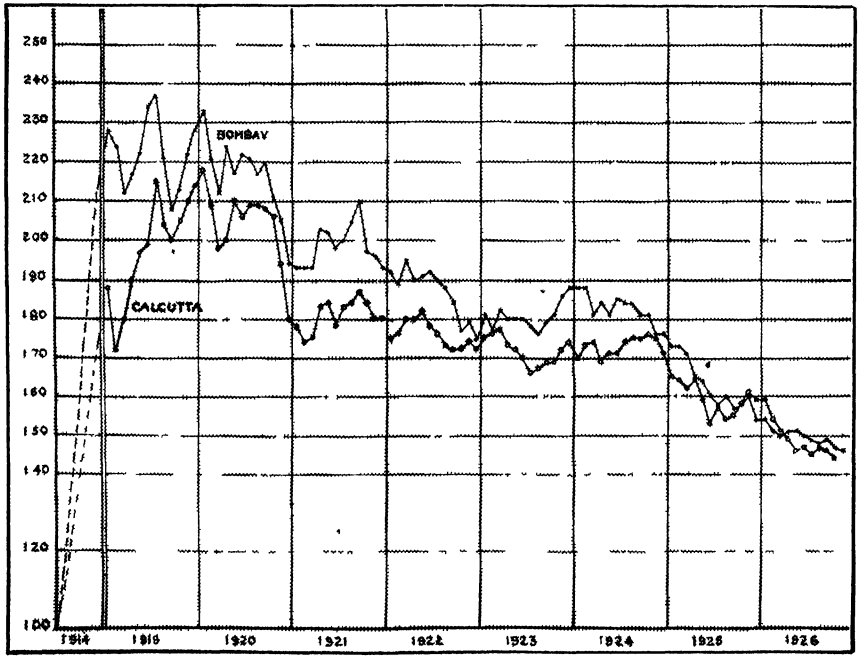


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1925 to March 1926 prices in Bombay were lower than those in Calcutta.

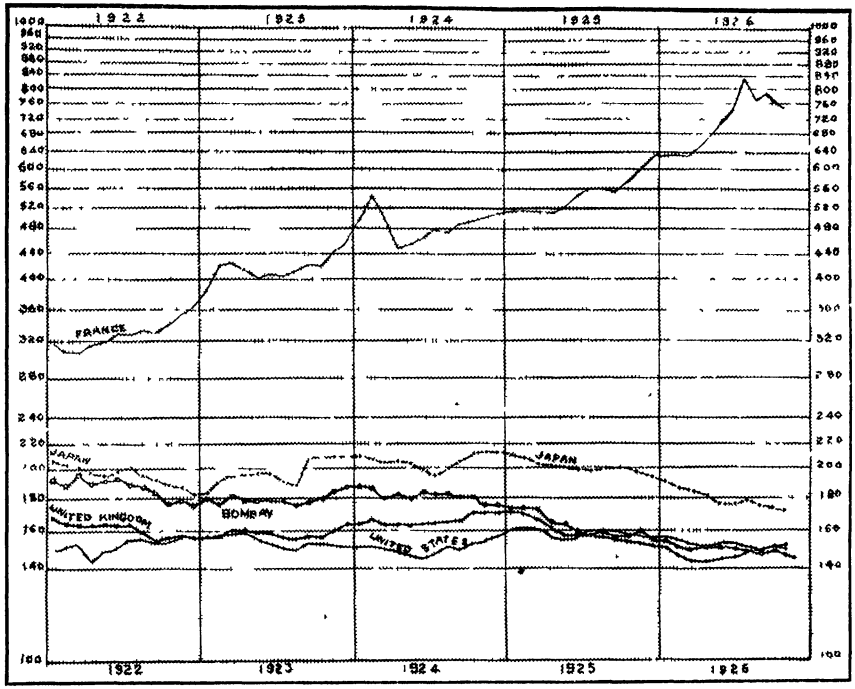
*The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale**



* Revised figures have been used for Calcutta since 1922.

COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the *Gazette*. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " The Statist."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times* and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Nov. 1926	Dec. 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Dec. 1926 over or below	
							July 1914	Nov. 1926
				As. p	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill .	Paylee	212	5 10	7 11	8 0	+ 2 2	+ 0 1
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 6	7 6	+ 1 8	
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 6	5 8	+ 1 5	+ 0 2
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 4	6 2	+ 1 7	— 0 2
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 6	6 7	+ 2 3	+ 0 1
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 3	8 7	+ 2 8	+ 0 4
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer	28	1 1	1 11	2 0	+ 0 11	+ 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul) .	Sangli, middle quality	,,	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 4	15 4	+ 7 6	
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 10	+ 1 1	— 0 1
Beef ..		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 0	+ 1 6	— 0 3
Mutton ..		,,	39	3 0	5 6	5 11	+ 2 11	+ 0 5
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,,	28	7 1	13 4	13 2	+ 6 1	— 0 2
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,,	28	0 8	1 0	1 2	+ 0 6	+ 0 2
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,,	28	0 3	1 .0	1 0	+ 0 9	
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,,	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5	

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

During December 1926, the variations in prices as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food grains, rice and gram rose by one pie each per paylee, jowari and turdal recorded increases of 2 and 4 pies respectively per paylee whilst bajri declined by 2 pies per paylee. The price of wheat showed no change. Amongst other food articles, sugar (refined) and potatoes advanced by one and two pies respectively per seer. There was a decrease of 3 pies in the price of beef but mutton went up by 5 pies per lb. Salt was cheaper by 1 pie per paylee and ghee by 2 pies per seer.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 300 per cent. above their prewar level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and potatoes by more than 60 per cent. and beef by 60 per cent. The rise in the prices of food grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in November and December 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in November and December 1926 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in November 1926 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in December 1926 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	107	119	113	114	Rice ..	100	106	118	117	102
Wheat ..	100	82	99	96	102	Wheat ..	100	84	95	100	109
Jowari ..	100	80	95	66	95	Jowari ..	100	81	89	74	92
Bajri ..	100	85	99	84	102	Bajri ..	100	89	93	83	93
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	89	103	90	103	Cereals ..	100	90	99	94	99
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	81	84	81	87	Gram ..	100	80	83	80	79
Turdal ..	100	107	124	98	110	Turdal ..	100	104	119	103	121
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	94	104	90	99	Pulses ..	100	92	101	92	100
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	93	92	95	Sugar (refined) ..	100	91	97	102	107
Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	69	Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	73
Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107	Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107
Salt ..	100	60	69	108	87	Salt ..	100	62	71	111	88
Beef ..	100	103	63	57	69	Beef ..	100	110	75	61	74
Mutton ..	100	89	89	89	98	Mutton ..	100	82	82	82	91
Milk ..	100	51	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	76	75	75	78	Ghee ..	100	76	76	76	79
Potatoes ..	100	105	112	93	77	Potatoes ..	100	98	120	113	69
Onions ..	100	58	51	62	45	Onions ..	100	60	70	93	59
Cocoanut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	Cocoanut oil.	100	90	112	112	98
Average— Other articles of food ..	100	82	83	86	82	Average— Other articles of food ..	100	83	87	92	84
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**85**	**90**	**88**	**89**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**85**	**91**	**92**	**89**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the *Gazette*. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month the relative average for all food articles rose by 1 and 4 points at Ahmedabad and Sholapur respectively, while it remained steady at Karachi and Poona. Referring back to December 1925, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles declined by 5 points at Karachi, 7 points at Ahmedabad and 2 points at Poona while it advanced by 1 point at Sholapur.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice advanced at Sholapur and of bajri at Karachi while both fell at the remaining three centres. Wheat declined at Ahmedabad but rose at the other centres. The relative prices of gram and mutton registered a decrease, those of cocoanut oil and tea were stationary and of sugar (refined), salt, onions and beef advanced at all the four mofussil centres. Milk advanced at Karachi and jagri (gul) at Poona and both remained unchanged at the other centres. Potatoes were higher at Ahmedabad and Sholapur.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in December .. 2 Workpeople involved .. 712

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during December 1926, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, and magnitude of strikes in December 1926, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in December 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Dec. 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Dec. 1926
	Started before 1st Dec.	Started in Dec.	Total		
Textile	1	1	2	712	1,251
Transport					
Engineering					
Metal					
Miscellaneous					
Total ..	1	1	2	712	1,251

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was two both of which occurred in cotton mills, one in Ahmedabad and the other in Broach. The number of workpeople involved in these two disputes was 712 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 1251.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, August to December 1926

—	August 1926	September 1926	October 1926	November 1926	December 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	7	3	7	4	2
Disputes in progress at beginning ..					1
Fresh disputes begun ..	7	3	7	4	1
Disputes ended ..	7	3	7	3	2
Disputes in progress at end.				1	
Number of workpeople involved ..	6,900	3,778	6,120	1,216	712
Aggregate duration in working days ..	22,457	3,558	14,358	3,094	1,251
Demands—					
Pay ..	4	2	4	2	
Bonus ..					
Personal ..	2	1	3	2	
Leave and hours ..			...		
Others ..	1				
Results—					
In favour of employees			1		1
Compromised ..	1			1	
In favour of employers..	6	3	6	2	1

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

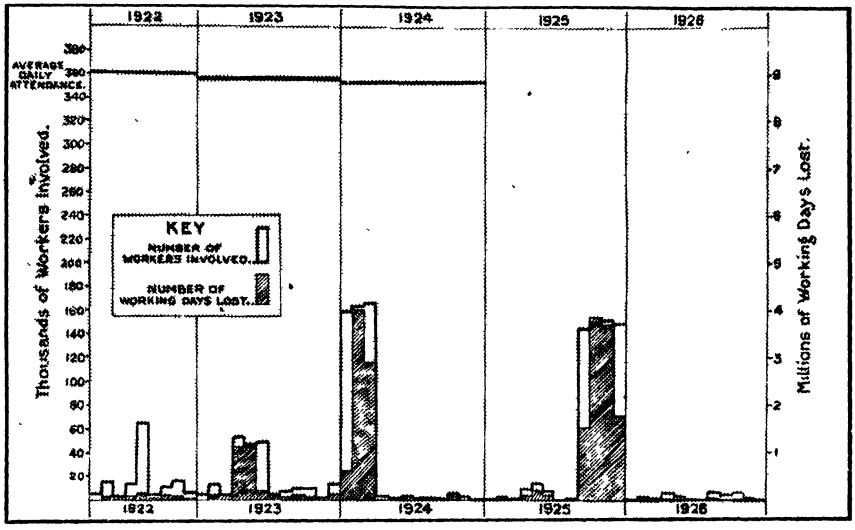
III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February „	5	5,817	75	25	..
March „	9	3,161	67	22	11
April „	3	13,088	67	33	..
May „	4	7,733	100	..	..
June „	9	1,752	100	..	..
July „	4	661	100	..	..
August „	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „	3	3,558	100	..	..
October „	7	14,358	86	14	..
November „	4	3,094	67	..	33
December „	2	1,251	50	50	..
Summary for the above twelve months.	57	77,390	83	12	5

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

During the month of December 1926 there were two industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency both of which occurred in cotton mills. One of these disputes was already in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople affected was 712 and the time loss amounted to 1251 working days. Each of the two disputes arose over the question of pay and one of them ended in favour of the employers and the other in favour of the employees.

Progress of Individual Disputes

AHMEDABAD

In the Indian Spinning and Weaving Mill the weavers demanded that their rates of wages should be brought into line with those received by the weavers in other mills. As their demand was not acceded to 200 weavers struck work on the 23rd December. On the 24th the management closed the mill on account of the strike and informed the strikers that their wages would be paid off on the 25th.

BROACH

The dispute in the Whittle Mill No. 3 which began in November 1926 continued into the month under review. The strike virtually terminated on the 6th but normal working was not resumed till the 10th. The result of this strike was favourable to the employees.

Working Class Cost of Living

VARIATIONS IN BOMBAY DURING 1926

The Cost of Living Index Number remained fairly steady during the year and the price fluctuations were within very narrow limits. The index varied between 153 and 157, the minimum being reached in April and May and the maximum in July. The twelve-monthly average was 155, the same as for the previous year and 2 points below the average for the year 1924. The monthly index numbers together with the annual averages for each of the last seven years will be found on page 386 of this issue.

The annual averages since 1915 are as follows :—

(July 1914 = 100)

Year	Index No.	Year	Index No.
1915	107	1921	173
1916	110	1922	164
1917	119	1923	154
1918	154	1924	157
1919	175	1925	155
1920	183	1926	155

The rise in rice and bajri having been partially counterbalanced by the fall in the prices of wheat and jowari, " cereals " advanced by one point as compared with the previous year. The index number of food grains was 134 as compared with 131 in 1925. This rise was contributed largely by the rise in the prices of gram and turdal which soared very high and fluctuated greatly during the year.

The index number for the " Other food " group registered a decrease of two points as compared with the previous year. Sugar (refined) which had recorded a heavy fall of 65 points in 1925 went down only by one point during the year. The price of gul declined by ten points. Other noticeable changes were a rise of 6, 8 and 22 points in beef, potatoes and onions and a fall of 6 and 8 points respectively in mutton and ghee. The " Fuel and Lighting " index remained the same.

As compared with last year, there was a heavy fall in the price of clothing. The index number stood at 164, 33 points below the level of the previous year and 62 points below the twelve-monthly average for 1924. During the year the index for clothing stood between 172 and 175 in the first four months and thereafter fell very rapidly reaching its lowest level 148 in December 1926. The general depression in trade, insufficient demand for clothing and the low prices of raw cotton are among the causes that have tended to bring about the rapid fall in the price of cloth.

The index number for house-rent was the same as in 1924. No house-rent enquiry was conducted in 1925 and 1926 and the figure for 1923-24 has therefore been used.

To sum up : In 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number remained stationary at 155 as compared with the preceding year and was two points below the average for the year 1924. Food grains advanced by three points and this rise was partially counterbalanced by a fall of two

points in the other articles of food, thus showing a rise of two points in the all-food index. The heavy fall in clothing, however, resulted in keeping the general index on the level of the previous year.

The following table shows the annual averages of the individual and group index numbers of the various items included in the cost of living index :—

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Commodities included in the Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number

July 1914 = 100

Articles	Annual average for 1924	Annual average for 1925	Annual average for 1926	Percentage rise (+) or fall (—) in 1926 over 1925
Rice	132	131	134	+ 2·3
Wheat	121	134	132	— 1·5
Jowari	136	132	128	— 3·0
Bajri	129	132	140	+ 6·1
Cereals	130	132	133	+ 0·8
Gram	120	128	146	+14·1
Turdal	115	116	133	+14·7
Pulses	119	124	142	+14·5
Cereals and pulses ..	129	131	134	+ 2·3
Sugar (refined)	248	183	182	— 0·5
Gul	176	176	166	— 5·7
Tea	201	198	196	— 1·0
Salt	171	153	154	+ 0·7
Beef	159	156	162	+ 3·8
Mutton	205	186	180	— 3·2
Milk	191	191	191	
Ghee	196	198	190	— 4·0
Potatoes	183	166	174	+ 4·8
Onions	313	307	329	+ 7·2
Cocoanut oil	118	114	113	— 0·9
Other articles of food ..	189	183	181	— 1·1
All articles of food ..	151	150	152	+ 1·3
Fuel and lighting ..	165	165	165	
Clothing	226	197	164	—16·8
House rent	172	172	172	
Cost of living	157	155	155	

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during December 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of December 1926. All Commissioners in the Presidency furnished information and out of a total number of 26 cases disposed of during the month 24 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The gross amount of compensation awarded in lump sums amounted to Rs. 8704-13-0

during the month under review as compared with Rs. 13,959-15-0 during the previous month and Rs. 23,608-15-2 in December 1925. Out of the 26 cases in which compensation was claimed, 10 were of fatal accidents, 15 of permanent partial disablement and the remaining one of temporary disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in textile mills was 11 and in other industries 15. The corresponding figures for December 1925 were 16 and 20.

The claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month were males over 15 years of age. Out of the total number of cases 10 were original claims, 13 were registration of agreements and the rest reviews and miscellaneous applications. Compensation was awarded in 9 cases, agreements were registered in 13 cases and the remaining four were dismissed.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

I. ACCIDENTS

The Monthly Statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of December 1926 in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. In December 1926 there were 253 industrial accidents in Bombay city. The injuries caused by these accidents were fatal in three cases, serious in 18 and minor in 239 cases. Fifty-seven or 23 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 72 per cent. in workshops, 27 per cent. in textile mills and 1 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

There were in all 19 accidents in Ahmedabad, 18 of which occurred in textile mills and the remaining one in a miscellaneous concern. Out of the total number of accidents 15 were due to machinery in motion and 4 to other causes. One of these accidents proved fatal and the rest caused minor injuries.

In Karachi, there were 5 accidents out of which 3 occurred in Railway workshops and 2 in miscellaneous concerns. The accidents in the Railway workshops were due to machinery in motion and those in miscellaneous concerns to other causes. All the accidents were of a minor nature.

In the other centres of the Presidency there occurred 54 accidents of which 18 were in textile mills, 29 in workshops and 7 in miscellaneous concerns. Machinery in motion was the cause of 17 accidents while other causes were responsible for the remaining 37 accidents. As the result of these accidents 13 persons received serious injuries and 42 minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

BOMBAY

The Manager of an engineering works was prosecuted under Section 41 (*i*) for breach of Section 36 for not maintaining a time-table and a holiday notice. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5.

AHMEDABAD

A Bleaching Contractor of a cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 22 for employing persons on a Sunday without allowing them a holiday in lieu thereof. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of three cases. (Three cases. Total fine Rs. 30.)

A guardian of a child was prosecuted under Section 44 (*a*) for employing a child in two different mills on the same day. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5.

Employment Situation in December 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 127 or 86·39 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of December 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 127 returns amounted to 8·36 per cent. in December as against 9·22 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 79 mills which were working in December 1926, 76 or 96·20 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 9·14 per cent. as compared with 9·77 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 57 mills were working during the month. Information was supplied by 40 or 70·18 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 2·15 per cent. in December as against 2·34 per cent. in November. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

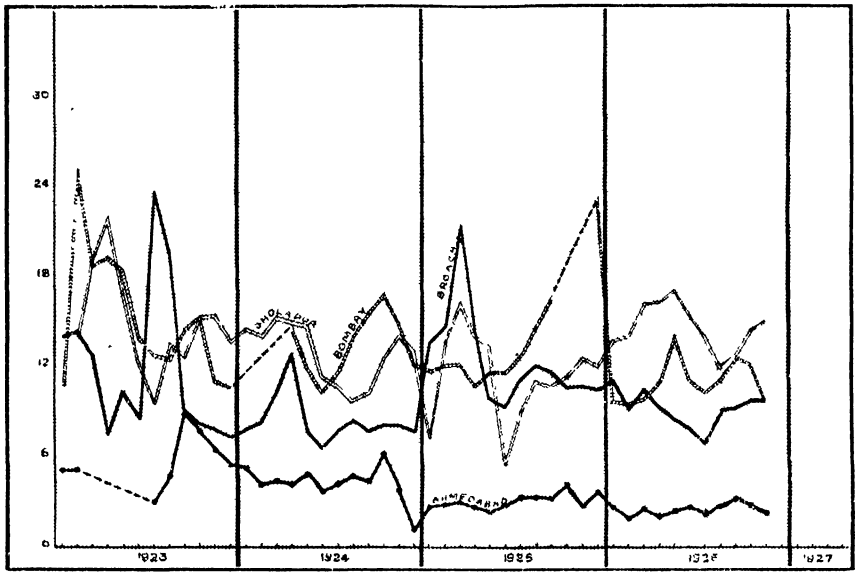
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 0·97 per cent.

Returns were submitted by all the mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 13·66.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism during the month under review was 7·91 per cent. as against 9·83 in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 13·31 per cent. as against 13·57 per cent. in the previous month. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 11·06 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 6·60 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

A meeting of women workers in Spinning departments was held at Miss Anasuya Ben's bungalow on 26th December 1926 when about 200 women were present. The workers' hardships at home as well as in the mills were discussed. One common complaint was the drinking habit of their husbands especially among Waghris and the consequent unhappy family life. The evils of child marriage and extravagance during marriages were also discussed. It is proposed to convene such meetings frequently in order to improve the social and family life of the workers.

In order to promote friendly relations between capital and labour Sheth Ambalal Sarabhai held a social gathering of the workers of the Calico and the Jubilee Mills on 10th January 1927. Light refreshments were served. Sports were arranged and Miss Anasuya Ben distributed the prizes to the winners.

The Labour Union is busy holding meetings in the mills for the election of members of the Council of representatives. It is understood that a house rent allowance of Rs. 4 per mensem has been sanctioned to the postmen with effect from 1st October 1926.

A meeting of the local telegraphists was addressed by the General Secretary of the All-India Telegraph Union on 19th December 1926 when Mr. Manilal V. Kothari presided. The General Secretary stated that the Indian Telegraph Association formed by Anglo-Indians did not represent the grievances of Indians and pointed out the necessity of joining the All-India Telegraph Union. The President advised them to maintain friendly relations with the original institution and to join the new Union and increase its strength and status.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th January 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

" The situation regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at this moment in the different Divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat—Since the submission of the last report there has been no rain anywhere in the Division. The standing crops are generally in good condition. Harvesting of *kharif* crops such as *bajri*, rice, *bavto*, etc., is now nearly completed and that of late sown jowar still continues in places. The young *rabi* crops are progressing satisfactorily, on the whole. The condition of the irrigated crops is excellent.

Konkan—There was no rainfall in the Division during the period. The sowing of late crops is nearing completion. The harvesting of *kharif* crops is now completed almost throughout the division while that of cardamom, sugarcane, and betel-nut is still in progress in places in the Kanara District. The garden crops are doing well everywhere.

Deccan—Some light scattered showers of rainfall were received at places during the third week of December. This rainfall though of some use to the late sown crops was slightly injurious to the harvested *kharif* crops lying out in the fields. The harvesting of *kharif* crops was completed everywhere. The standing *rabi* crops were showing signs of withering for want of sufficient moisture especially in the eastern part of the division where the late rains were very scanty. Crops under irrigation are progressing well. The picking of cotton was in progress in some places, while in others it was completed.

Karnatak—The rainfall was totally absent during the period. The harvesting of *kharif* crops was almost completed. The young *rabi* crops were in a very unsatisfactory condition and withering in places in the whole of the eastern part of the Division and in the north of the Dharwar District. Picking of cotton was commenced in places. Garden crops are progressing well."

Housing of Labour in India

Professor Radhakamal Mookerjee in the course of an interesting paper on Labour Welfare and City Improvement at the Economic Conference referred to the appalling infantile death rate and overcrowding in industrial cities in India, and said that it was now realised more and more that the whole future of the country's industrial development was bound up with the question of improving the living and hygienic conditions in the mill towns and industrial centres. Calcutta with her large number of single huts or *bustees* compact together, and Bombay with her immense back-to-back tenement houses represented two characteristic types of bad housing, which were gradually spreading to every smaller industrial town in India. The colossal problems of sanitation, sewerage, and transport in such big cities could be solved only by the adoption of western methods of town-planning, industrial housing and means of communication. For cities like these the system of zoning and the development of industrial suburbs, as well as cheap suburban transport, had long been felt as essential to relieve the congestion, and progress in these directions would await education as well as the adaptation of national habits to meet the demands of new development schemes.

A discussion followed in which Mr. K. C. Rai Chaudhuri, Labour Member in the Bengal Council, said that public opinion in India about the housing of labour was very vague and uninstructive. He cited as an instance what happened in the Old Calcutta Corporation and the New Corporation about five years ago when the housing of the poor formed the subject matter of a discussion. The Corporation discussed the matter for six months and could not find a suitable definition of the poorer classes as provided in the old Act, and the matter was abandoned. In the new Act definite powers were given to the Corporation to provide cheap houses for the working classes. Some months ago a Committee was appointed to inquire into the question and the interest taken in the subject could be gauged from the fact that many of the meetings could not be held for want of a quorum. No definite conclusions had yet been arrived at. Mr. Rai Chaudhuri said that he had personal knowledge of housing conditions in the jute mill area, where a third of the 400,000 workers were provided with dwellings by the mill authorities. The rest had to live in most dingy and unhealthy *bustees*.

For this state of things, however, the capitalists were not to blame. They had been trying their best to acquire land for housing their labour, but the landowners would not part with their land for even fancy prices offered to them. What was wanted was that definite power should be given by legislation to the municipalities to acquire land compulsorily and to build sanitary dwellings, and to let them to the workers at less than economic rents. He was strongly of opinion that all efforts at providing better dwellings for the workers would be a failure if economic rents were charged and a reasonable return on capital investment was demanded. Mr. Rai Chaudhuri added that, in certain parts of the country, capitalists had, to a certain extent, solved the problem of how to make labour take an interest in work. In the tea gardens in Assam and in the Doars, the

workers in spite of very low wages, were more or less happy, because a great bulk of them had land given to them for cultivation and grazing purposes. To some extent, this was also done in some of the collieries in the interior of the Jharria and Ranigunge coalfields with the result that the labour was more or less attached to the work.

Mr. Findlay Shirras said that, in considering labour problems, the first thing that struck him was that the problem of distribution in the next two decades would be more important in this country than the problem of production. As regards the question of housing the speaker said that, in the Buckingham Mills in Madras, and the Empress Mills in Nagpur, as also in certain mills in Bombay, a great deal was being done to provide proper housing accommodation for the labourers. Moreover, the Government of Bombay had built chawls, but the workers did not like to go to these chawls as the rents were fairly high, and also because they did not like certain modified restrictions which they had to undergo. In his opinion, what was necessary more than anything else to improve the standard of living of the workers was the provision of primary education. In this connection, Mr. Shirras paid a high tribute to Miss Anusuya Ben, Mr. Shankar Lal Banker, and other trade union leaders of Ahmedabad who, he said, had done a good deal towards providing better housing accommodation for the workers.

The President, in concluding the proceedings, said that the real remedy lay in the raising of the standard of living of the workers. That could only be effected by increased production and proper distribution. If they could accomplish these two things, he had no doubt they would be able to do much to improve the condition of the labouring classes. (*From "Times of India," Bombay, January 7, 1927.*)

Committee on Education and Industry (England and Wales)

FIRST PART OF REPORT

The Committee on Education and Industry (England and Wales), appointed last year, have issued the first part of their Report.* The terms of reference of the Committee were: "To inquire into and advise upon the public system of education in England and Wales in relation to the requirements of trade and industry, with particular reference to the adequacy of the arrangements for enabling young persons to enter into and retain suitable employment." At the suggestion of the President of the Board of Education and the Minister of Labour the Committee dealt first with the questions arising under the second part of their terms of reference, and this forms the subject of the present Report; the public system of education in relation to the requirements of trade and industry will be dealt with in the second part.

The Report outlines the public arrangements in England and Wales for advising boys and girls as to choice of employment, and for placing them in employment. Such arrangements only date back some 16 years from

* H. M. Stationery Office: price, 1s. 6d. net.

the establishment of Labour Exchanges (now called Employment Exchanges) under the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909; followed by the passing of the Education (Choice of Employment) Act, 1910, which empowered (but did not require) Local Education Authorities to make arrangements to assist boys and girls with respect to the choice of employment. Finally, under Section 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, it was, in effect, provided that a Local Education Authority should not, after the 31st March 1924, exercise choice of employment powers unless it also undertook duties in connection with the administration of unemployment benefit to persons under the age of 18 years.

It will be seen therefore that the work of advising boys and girls as to their choice of employment, and of endeavouring to place them in employment, has all along been, and still is, divided between two organisations—the Ministry of Labour, assisted by local juvenile advisory committees; and Local Education Authorities, working through juvenile employment committees. Taking England and Wales only, to which alone this Report relates, the number of insured juveniles in areas where Local Education Authorities are exercising their powers was 376,700 in 1925, and the number in areas under the Ministry of Labour 465,600.

The following is a summary of the principal recommendations of the Committee :—

The provisions of Section 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and of Section 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, which give to Local Education Authorities the power to make arrangements for advising juveniles and placing them in employment and in conjunction therewith to undertake the administration of unemployment insurance for juveniles, should be maintained; but the present system under which the responsibility for the administration of choice of employment and unemployment insurance for juveniles is shared by the Board of Education and the Ministry of Labour should be terminated, and the Ministry should assume central responsibility for the two services. The Ministry should leave Local Education Authorities as far as possible to conduct and develop their choice of employment work on individual lines and in a manner consistent with their general educational policy.

Consideration should be given to the desirability of setting up a National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment, on which Local Education Authorities should be strongly represented.

Steps should be taken to secure the closest possible co-operation between neighbouring areas in regard to the placing of juveniles in employment and to other aspects of choice of employment, and for this purpose Juvenile Employment Committees and Juvenile Advisory Committees responsible for neighbouring districts in a well-defined industrial area might institute some system of formal co-operation.

Local Education Authorities should make the fullest use of the labour clearing arrangements established by the Ministry of Labour and designed to facilitate the rapid and equitable absorption in employment of juveniles residing in neighbouring areas.

The Ministry should consider the question of the national statistics which it is desirable to obtain as bearing on the employment and unemployment

of juveniles, and if any extension of the present arrangements appears desirable, should consult representatives of the Local Education Authorities concerned.

Section 138 (1) of the Education Act, 1921, which, as regards public elementary school-leavers, provides that a child shall not leave school until the end of the term in which he or she reaches the fourteenth birthday, should be maintained.

The appointment of qualified officers and the provision of suitable premises for choice of employment are essential.

The use of psychological tests as a means of deciding the suitability of applicants for particular employments should be encouraged.

Arrangements should be made to meet the special needs of (*i*) boys and girls from secondary schools, and (*ii*) mentally and physically defective juveniles.

There should be close co-operation between Juvenile Employment and Juvenile Advisory Committees and local organisations concerned with the welfare of juveniles.

Steps should be taken to increase the volume of information as to industrial conditions which is available to school children or juveniles and to their parents.

Juvenile unemployment centres conducted by Local Education Authorities under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour and attended by boys and girls during periods of unemployment are valuable, and a permanent scheme for these centres should be brought into operation and a permanent appropriation of public money made for this purpose. Nucleus centres should be established in certain of the big cities. Where no juvenile unemployment centre exists, the possibility of forming special classes for unemployed juveniles, if possible in the day-time, should be investigated. In view of the fact that the juveniles attending the centres are liable to leave at any time when employment offers, formal courses of vocational instruction should not be attempted in centres of the existing type, but the possibility of providing trade training for unemployed juveniles might be the subject of a departmental enquiry.

While the raising of the school-leaving age to 15 and ultimately to 16 would remove the existing difficulties as regards unemployed juveniles of 14 and 15, the change, if made, should be made for educational and social rather than industrial reasons. The same applies to the establishment of compulsory day continuation schools.

Attendance at the day school after the statutory school-leaving age, and pending employment, should not be made compulsory; neither should the attendance of boys and girls of 14 and 15, when employed, at courses of instruction.

A system of working certificates should be introduced, under which it would be a statutory obligation on employers before engaging juveniles, who are exempt from obligation to attend school and are below the age of entry into unemployment insurance, to require from them the production of a working certificate issued by the Exchange or Bureau, or evidence that they possess such certificate, and a statutory obligation on every such juvenile seeking employment to attend a juvenile unemployment centre

or other approved course of instruction when required to do so. The question of the inclusion in the above scheme of agricultural workers and private domestic servants should be further considered. Maintenance allowances should not be paid to juveniles attending, under the above scheme, juvenile unemployment centres or other approved courses of instruction.

The Ministry of Labour should undertake an enquiry into the subject of casual juvenile labour.

The Ministry should confer with industrial organisations and with Local Education Authorities and Juvenile Advisory Committees, so far as they are concerned, in regard to questions of retention of employment and should use their influence to secure the satisfactory absorption of juveniles in adult occupations. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, December 1926.*)

Industrial Peace in Great Britain

ANALYSIS OF STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS

The question of industrial peace is again commanding considerable attention. The zeal of the supporters of this movement, however, leads them into two dangers. The first is the tendency to magnify the volume and intensity of open industrial warfare, and the second is to assume that there is some single royal road towards the establishment of a reign of industrial peace.

From 1910 to 1925 inclusive 292,730,000 working days were lost in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in consequence of strikes and lock-outs, or an average of about 18,295,000 working days per year. If we exclude the war years, the lowest figure for the past 16 years was 8,361,000 days lost in 1924 and the highest 82,269,000 in 1921, when there was a coal stoppage which lasted three months. The figures for 16 years are, of course, enormous in the aggregate, though on the average they work out at about one day per year per worker. The number of days for which sickness benefit is paid each year under the National Health Insurance Acts, in England and Wales alone, dwarfs into insignificance the time lost through industrial stoppages in the whole of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. According to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, the total number of weeks represented by the sickness and disablement payments in 1925 may be estimated at about eight million weeks' sickness and seven million weeks' disablement for men and at 5,500,000 weeks' sickness and 4,500,000 weeks' disablement for women. These figures, which do not include the first three days of incapacity, for which sickness benefit is not payable, give a total of 25 million weeks' work lost in 1925 through sickness.

It is impossible to compare the amount of lost time due to industrial disputes with the number of idle days due to enforced unemployment, but during the five years 1921-25 inclusive the number of unemployed has never fallen below a million, and has been much higher. It may be argued that at least some of this unemployment was itself the outcome of industrial disputes; but, even so, it still remains true that there is

far more enforced idleness arising from trade depression than there is lost time arising from strikes and lock-outs. It may also be urged that open or veiled industrial hostility is a factor in retarding the return of economic prosperity. The point, however, which is being made is that the leakage due to trade disputes is not nearly so large as the wastage due to other factors. These figures are given not to minimise the economic dislocation arising from industrial strife, but to put the problem in its true perspective so far as this can be done by the use of statistics.

Moreover, it is not to be assumed that industrial stoppages are spread over the whole of industry. In some trades they are infrequent and almost unknown. In others they are recurring phenomena. The table below shows the strikes and lock-outs of the 16 years, 1910-25, classified by groups of industries :—

Groups of industries	No. of Stoppages 1910-1925	Percentage of Total
Building	1,496	10·7
Mining and quarrying ..	2,816	20·1
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	3,412	24·4
Textile	1,364	9·8
Clothing	762	5·5
Transport	1,062	7·6
Other industries and services	3,085	22·0

It will be observed that mining and quarrying, metal, engineering and shipbuilding account for nearly one-half the disputes culminating in stoppages, and that the proportion of the total stoppages due to disputes in certain important groups of industries is relatively small. It may, of course, be argued that the number of people employed in these different groups varies, but even if we assume (though the assumption is not necessarily a sound one) that the more people there are engaged in an industry, the greater the likelihood of trade stoppages, the results still show a much heavier incidence of strikes and lock-outs in some groups of trades than in others :—

Group of Industries	Percentage of Total Disputes. 1910-1925	Percentage Employed of Total Employed Population (1921)
Building	10·7	4
Mining and quarrying	20·1	7
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	24·4	13
Textile	9·8	7
Clothing	5·5	5
Transport	7·6	7
Other industries and services	22·0	57

The foregoing table reveals the fact that building, mining and quarrying, metal, engineering and shipbuilding are responsible for a greater proportion of the industrial stoppages which occur than the size of the industry—if this be a factor—would warrant. These figures, to those interested in the establishment and maintenance of industrial peace, call for an examination of the economic organisation and methods of negotiation, the general economic circumstances, and the psychology and outlook of the workers and employers in the various industries.

A national stoppage on the scale of those in the mining industry in 1921 and during the present year loads the total figures of time lost very heavily.

Moreover, it is not generally recognised that, taking the past sixteen years, nearly one-half of the 13,982 strikes and lock-outs in Great Britain and Northern Ireland recorded in the recently issued Abstract of Labour Statistics* lasted less than a week. Again, though the number of stoppages is large, it is small in relation to the large number of negotiations that take place about wages and other matters. The Ministry of Labour state, for example, that only 1·3 per cent. of the wage changes that took place last year involved a stoppage of work. Negotiation is, in fact, the normal method of settlement of outstanding differences. In general, though, of course, there may be exceptions, every practicable means of averting a stoppage is exhausted before a deadlock results in notices to strike or lock-out. Even where stoppages occur a settlement is reached in roughly three-quarters of the disputes in recent years by direct negotiation between the parties or their representatives, whilst subsequent arbitration terminates only 2 or 3 per cent. of the strikes and lock-outs.

In any consideration of the problem of industrial peace it is important to bear in mind the various causes of stoppages. The following table analyses the causes of strikes and lock-outs from 1910 to 1925 inclusive :—

Causes or Objects of Strikes and Lock-outs	Percentage of Total Number of Disputes 1910-1925
Wage increases	41·7
Wage decreases	9·8
Other wage questions	13·5
All wages questions	65·0
Hours of labour	3·5
Employment of particular classes of persons	15·9
Other working arrangements, rules and discipline	6·5
Trade unionism	7·1
Miscellaneous questions	2·2

It will be seen that about two-thirds of the industrial stoppages originate in wages questions, and of these two-thirds arise from demands for wage increases. All other questions are responsible for only a minority of the disputes resulting in stoppages.

It is, of course, difficult to arrive at any general agreement as to whether a particular dispute terminates in favour of the workers or the employers. But the Ministry of Labour have published their own analysis, which may be summarised as follows :—

Percentage of Disputes—	
(*a*) Settled in favour of workers	25·8
(*b*) Settled in favour of employers	29·9
(*c*) Compromised	44·3

It will be seen that about a quarter of the stoppages of the last 16 years ended in favour of the workers, and rather more in favour of the employers, whilst over two-fifths terminated in a compromise. It is, of course, a hypothetical question whether the results would be substantially the same if the dispute had been settled without recourse to the strike or lock-out. It is, for example, open to argument that had there been no strikes the results would, on the whole, have been as favourable to the workpeople

* "Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom" Cmd. 2740. 1926. 4s net. Obtainable from H. M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, W. C. 2.

as they proved to be after a stoppage. On the other hand, it is equally a matter for argument that without a stoppage, and by resort to other methods, a proportion of the stoppages which terminated in favour of the employers might have swollen the percentage of settlements by compromise.

If we analyse the results of disputes further from the point of view of the numbers of workers involved in disputes over the past 16 years, the results are as follows :—

Stoppages Ended	Percentage of Total Number of Workers Directly Involved
In favour of workers	20·0
In favour of employers	15·4
By compromise	64·6

It will be observed that nearly two-thirds of the workers directly involved in stoppages during the years 1910-1925, inclusive, witnessed a settlement by compromise, and that the number of workers who emerged victorious was greater than the number for whom the settlement meant defeat. If the workers are convinced that the compromises reached after strikes are better than they would have been without a stoppage, and that compromised settlements, and even unsuccessful strikes, have averted worse evils, the strike weapon is hardly likely to be surrendered. On the other hand, if, as regards the great majority of stoppages which end in compromise, the employers believe that the results might have been less favourable to them had the lock-out not been used, they will not willingly surrender their right to lock-out. Unfortunately, it is impossible to ascertain the nature of the compromises reached, which range from those in which the workers obtain nine points to those in which they lose all but one point. Nor is information available to show the character of the disputes in which compromises were reached. No doubt the greater number were wages disputes where, of course, compromise is much easier than in the case, say, of disputes on trade unionism which raise questions of principle that fall into the category of " non-justiciable " disputes. There is little of practical value to be drawn from the analysis of the results of industrial stoppages, except that the majority are settled by compromise, and do not result in complete victory for either one side or the other.

The foregoing considerations, based upon the facts, must be borne in mind by industrial pacifists. A study of the facts goes to show that :—

(1) The vast majority of the issues on which there is disagreement between employers and workers are settled by direct negotiation, and a smaller proportion of cases by conciliation and arbitration, without resort to either the strike or the lock-out.

(2) The number of days' work lost by industrial stoppages is insignificant compared with the days lost through disease or enforced unemployment.

(3) A substantial proportion of the industrial stoppages are of short duration.

(4) There are certain groups of industries where strikes and lock-outs are more frequent than in the rest of industry.

(5) The majority of industrial disputes are settled by compromise. (*From the "Economist," London, December 18, 1926.*)

Family Allowances

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics has recently published a report* on Family Allowances in various countries. The report is based on results of a survey conducted by the Bureau in 1924 covering the following 27 countries :—Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, England, Esthonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. The report consists of two parts. The first deals with the scope and method of the survey and the general tendencies as are observable in all these 27 countries, while the second part gives full details regarding the system of family allowances in various countries covered by the survey.

The term Family Allowances is open to rather broad interpretation, but for the purposes of the present survey it means " allowances for every day family responsibilities aside from special contingencies."

It is pointed out that the system of granting family allowances is an old one and dates back to the year 1793 when such allowances were first granted in France. The system was, however, not general and it was during the last war that it began to be gradually introduced in various countries. During the war and its aftermath, owing to the variations in family conditions and because of the economic difficulties in which certain Governments and employers found themselves during the period of high prices, recourse was had to a wage system whereby the basic wage was supplemented by allowances to workers with families, thus providing for the greater need of those having dependents.

There are different kinds of family allowances. They can, however, be roughly divided into two classes : (1) allowances paid under legal enactments and (2) voluntary grants made by private employers. Excepting in England, New Zealand, Norway, Spain and Portugal, family allowances are being paid more or less extensively in the State Civil Service of all the countries covered. Of the 27 countries included in the survey, three, namely Australia, New Zealand and Hungary, were reported as having no family allowances in private industry. In France, the system is making striking progress in industry, and within the last few years there has been a marked development of the movement in the Belgian industry.

The methods of granting family allowances are various. Even in different industries in the same country, a variety of regulations is found. But the following few types may be mentioned : (1) allowances for married men regardless of the number of children ; (2) allowances for children only, but frequently including legitimate, illegitimate, adopted and foster children and step-children ; (3) allowances for both wives and children. The allowances for wives in various instances include common-law wives and divorced wives when the latter are entitled to support ; (4) allowances for

* Bulletin No. 401 of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, 1926.

widows with dependent children and for unmarried mothers; (5) allowances for aged parents, sisters and brothers; (6) allowances on an hourly, weekly, monthly or annual basis, by the shift, as a higher wage, without alleged connexion with the wage, or as a part of the cost of living bonus; (7) allowances to all employees with family responsibilities or only to workers and employees in the lower salary or wage groups; (8) allowances for a certain number of children only or for all children under a certain age; (9) allowances for children under 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21 and even 24 years of age; (10) allowances for children in the higher age groups, usually under certain conditions; for example, because such children are continuing their education or are suffering from physical and mental disability which prevents them from earning a living; (11) allowances for all children but the first two; (12) allowances which increase or decrease in amount according to whether the child is the second, third or fourth in the family.

The amounts of allowances vary in different countries and in different industries or employments and frequently according to the salary grade, or the wage group of the beneficiaries.

One of the developments of the family allowance movement is the institution of family funds for the pooling of the costs of family allowances among groups of employers and the prevention of discrimination in employment against workers with family responsibilities. The highest development of such funds is to be seen in France where there are no fewer than 176 of these. Family allowance funds are of two types, Regional Funds and Trade Funds, the former with a membership of establishments or industrial groups operating in the same locality, and the latter composed of employers or industrial groups in the same or allied trades.

In France and Belgium as the outcome of the experience of the working of family allowance funds, hygiene services have been organised for the benefit of the families of the workers.

The system of granting family allowance in agriculture, though not yet very common, is being gradually introduced in various countries particularly through payments in kind. In France there is a growing movement for the creation of family allowance funds in agriculture and in February 1925 there were actually 15 of these funds in existence.

Unemployment Insurance in Great Britain

SURVEY OF RECENT YEARS

Figures have recently been given to show some of the results of the unemployment insurance system in Great Britain over a number of years.

Number of Insured

The total number of insured workers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as estimated in July 1926 was 12,041,000, an increase of 149,000 over the figure for 1925, and of 500,000 over that for 1923.

When the extended insurance scheme was first introduced in November 1920, the number of insured workers was estimated at over 12,000,000, but this included those in the whole of Ireland. When the Irish Free State instituted a separate scheme in April 1922, the number of insured

persons in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was about 11,750,000. By July 1923 it had dropped to 11,500,000, but since then has risen steadily again.

Volume of Unemployment and Benefit

In reply to a question in the House of Commons, the Minister of Labour recently gave the total number of days of unemployment for which benefit was paid. The following figures exclude days for which benefit was not paid owing to waiting periods, disqualification of claims, etc.:—

Year	Days
1921	453,300,000
1922	345,100,000
1923	287,700,000
1924	258,500,000
1925	273,700,000

The Minister also gave the total amount of benefit paid in the eight years from the Armistice to 13th November 1926 as £275,000,000 *plus* £62,500,000 in out-of-work donation.

The drain on the Unemployment Fund involved by the continued severity of unemployment and these huge payments of benefit is indicated by the debt to the Treasury at the end of each year:

Year	£
1921	7,600,000
1922	15,890,000
1923	12,790,000
1924	5,410,000
1925	7,595,000

On 6th November 1926, however, the debt stood at £19,300,000, which reflects the increased unemployment following on the coal dispute. The Minister of Labour estimated the increase of debt from May to November 1926 at about £7,300,000. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 27, 1926.*)

Labour in British Malaya

EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORTS

The following information regarding labour in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States during the year 1925 has been taken from certain of the most recent official reports.

GENERAL

The title of the Controller of Labour, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, was changed in January 1925 to that of Controller of Labour, Malaya. In addition to the staff of the Labour Department, he was assisted by officers of the Chinese Protectorate appointed as Deputy or Assistant Controllers of Labour to deal with questions of Chinese labour. The interests of Indian labourers were also watched over by the Agent of the Government of India, whose headquarters were in Kuala Lumpur.

Local Malay labour was of little importance. The Malays are not as a rule desirous of earning any more than is sufficient to support them, and they merely use the estates to supplement whatever livelihood can be made out of their *kampongs*. Netherlands Indian labour was used to some extent in Pahang. On the whole, however, the labour force was made up almost entirely of Indians and Chinese.

The following table shows the numbers of labourers in the principal employments at the beginning of the year :—

Employment	Indians	Chinese	Javanese, Malays, etc.	Total
		Federated Malay States		
Estates	116,345	17,985	7,441	141,771
Tin Mines	8,271	95,425	2,439	106,135
Government Departments ..	18,895	2,040	2,650	23,585
Total ..	143,511	115,450	12,530	271,491
		Straits Settlements		
Estates, etc.	20 725	10,069	5,323	36,117
Government Departments . ..	12 030	2,062	2,214	16,306
Total ..	32,755	12,131	7,537	52,423
Grand Total ..	176,266	127,581	20,067	323,914

In the course of the year the number of Indians in employment in the Straits Settlements increased by 3830 and the number of Chinese by 2347, whilst the number of other races showed an aggregate decrease of 415, mainly owing to a decrease of 739 in the number of Javanese employed.

In the Federated Malay States increases were recorded in Government Departments, from the end of the year 1924 to the end of the year 1925, of 373 Indians and of 285 Chinese, and a decrease of 80 among the other races. According to returns from 1206 estates and mines, as compared with 1068 reporting in 1924, the increases were 18,267 among the Indians and 6995 among the Chinese, while slight decreases were reported in the employment of Javanese and other labour.

RECRUITMENT

Detailed information is given of the recruitment of Indian labourers.

In the course of the year there were 90,708 Indian immigrants, of whom 70,198 were assisted immigrants imported at the expense of the Immigration Fund. The assisted immigrants were recruited either by the *kangany* system or by the voluntary system.

By the *kangany* system, a few selected labourers, generally known as *kanganies*, are sent to India by employers in need of labourers. Each *kangany* is provided with a recruiting licence which is registered in the office of the Deputy Controller of Labour, Penang. Before sailing for India he is interviewed by the Agent of the Indian Government and his

licence then countersigned, while it is again endorsed by Emigration Commissioner at the depots of Madras or Negapatam. Thus licensed, the *kangany* is authorised to recruit not more than twenty adult labourers, receiving 10 rupees as commission for each such recruit.

During 1925, 6561 recruiting licences were issued for estates in the Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Johore, Kelantan, Kedah and Perlis. Registration of 76 licences was refused in Penang, while 157 licences were cancelled after issue. For Government Departments and plantations 110 licences were issued.

In 1925 the great majority of assisted labourers were recruited by *kanganies*. The voluntary emigration system, however, is slowly gaining ground, the percentage of such emigrants in relation to the total assisted emigrants having doubled since 1922. The description "voluntary labourer" used by the Agent of the Indian Government is perhaps somewhat misleading. All assisted emigrants, whether recruited by *kanganies* or otherwise, are under no obligation to repay the cost of their recruitment on landing in Malaya, and on giving a month's notice are free to leave their employment. The difference between a voluntary labourer and a labourer recruited by a *kangany* is that, whereas the latter has agreed to accept work on a certain estate, the former is entirely free to seek any place of employment.

The voyage from India to Malaya takes from five to ten days. The Agent of the Indian Government reports that "deck accommodation is very often overcrowded, as the deck space allowance for each adult is only 8 superficial feet during the fair weather season and 10 in foul weather season. The question of increasing the deck space allowance is engaging the attention of the Government."

About one-third of the assisted emigrants were landed at Penang and two-thirds at Port Swettenham. In both places they were detained normally for seven days for medical observation before being allowed to proceed in search of employment. At Penang a Hindu contractor supplied food, and the feeding and other arrangements were supervised by officers of the Labour Department and, in the opinion of the Agent of the Indian Government, seemed on the whole to be satisfactory. At Port Swettenham a Mohammedan contractor supplied food, and the officers of the Medical Department superintended the arrangements.

The contract daily rates for the supply of food to each labourer were 31 cents at the quarantine camp near Penang, 29 cents at the Penang depot and 19 cents at Port Swettenham. As shown below there is a higher mortality rate at Port Swettenham, which appears to the Indian Agent to be perhaps due to the differential treatment in respect of rations, while he also expresses his preference for the system of supervision in force at Penang.

The mortality among assisted immigrants was as follows :—

	Pulau Derejak (Penang)	Port Swettenham
No. of assisted immigrants ..	25,092	48,708
Deaths	54	215

WORK AND WAGES

Chinese were employed almost entirely on piece-work, their earnings ranging from 80 cents to 1·50 dollars a day. Javanese indentured

labourers were paid at the rate of 45 cents a day for men and 35 for women. Free Javanese and Malays were paid rates similar to those of Indians. The wages of Indian estate labourers varied according to locality from 35 cents (men) and 30 cents (women) to 50 cents (men) and 45 cents (women). The wages paid to Indians in mines and in the Public Works Department were slightly higher.

The Agent of the Indian Government considers that the wages paid to Indians in estates were " not adequate and commensurate with the increased price of rubber since May 1925 and the ever-increasing cost of living." He notes nevertheless with satisfaction that, in the districts paying the lowest wage standard rates showing an advance were fixed in October 1925.

Under the Straits Settlements Labour Ordinance and the Federated Malay States Labour Code, a labourer may not be required to work more than nine hours in any one day. There is, however, an increasing tendency to assign taskwork to the labourers or to pay them by results instead of exacting a fixed working day. The Chinese generally are employed in some such system already and Indians are being so employed to a great extent.

An abstract of the Labour Laws in Chinese is required to be exhibited in every place of employment when not less than 50 Chinese labourers are employed. This abstract explains the legal hours of work and methods of payment and draws attention to the fact that any dispute relating to task-work may be settled by the Labour Officer. The Agent of the Indian Government would like to see a similar abstract prepared for the Indian labourers, so that they may acquire greater knowledge of their rights and duties. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 27, 1926.*)

International Labour Conference

CONDITIONS OF WORK OF SEAMEN

An article on the above subject was published on page 1064 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1926 and we give below further particulars ascertained from reports published since that date. The Committee on the General Principles for the Inspection of the Conditions of Work of Seamen whose report was discussed by the Conference submitted a draft Recommendation comprising four parts dealing with (1) the scope of inspection ; (2) the organisation of inspection ; (3) the reports of the inspection authorities and (4) the powers and duties of inspectors. The first part laid stress on the necessity for securing the enforcement of all laws and regulations dealing with the conditions of work of seamen ; the second commended the centralisation of supervision or, if this was not possible, the pooling of experiences of the different services or authorities who function in this or similar behalf with a view to arrive at an effective method of work ; the third invited the central authority in each country to publish an annual report on the supervision of the conditions under which seamen work, containing statistical tables and comments on the organisation and work of inspection ; and the fourth drew the attention of maritime countries to the

necessity of providing for certain powers and duties of inspectors in their national legislation. The Conference made no amendments to the draft of the Committee and finally adopted it by 96 votes to 6.

At its 11th and 12th sittings on the 21st June 1926 the Conference dealt with the problem of the international codification of those rules relating to seamen's articles of agreement which concerned the repatriation of seamen. The Committee on Repatriation submitted to the Conference a Draft Convention, a Draft Recommendation and a Resolution. The Draft Convention consisted of six articles, the first two of which related to definitions. The question of repatriation of Masters and duly indentured apprentices was dealt with in the Recommendation and the object of the draft Resolution was to ensure the repatriation of fishermen left in foreign ports. Certain amendments were proposed by the workers' group in order to widen the scope of the Convention, and to include Masters and indentured apprentices within the provisions of the Convention. As a consequence, the Committee's draft was slightly modified and this and the Recommendation were adopted by the Conference. The Resolution did not evoke any discussion and was also adopted.

The report of the Committee on Discipline was next considered by the Conference. The basis for the Committee's report was the Draft Convention prepared by the International Labour Office. Article 3 of the proposed Convention dealt with criminal and disciplinary offences. The Committee did not find it possible to prescribe by means of international regulations the manners in which each maritime country should classify such offences. The matter was therefore referred to a Sub-Committee which also could not come to any agreement. The Committee therefore deleted the article in question leaving each country to classify the offences in accordance with its own national law. The title of the Convention was changed to " Draft Convention concerning the Guarantees to be Provided for Seamen in regard to Disciplinary and Criminal Penalties." When discussing this Convention in the Conference, the British Government delegate moved an additional article to exclude ' desertion or absence without leave ' from the Draft Convention. This was rejected by the Conference. The Draft Convention when put to the final vote failed to secure two-thirds majority. Only the Committee's draft Resolution on Discipline asking the International Labour Office to collect information with regard to the national laws, and decisions of the Courts in the various countries concerning the violation of Seamen's Articles of Agreement, was adopted by the Conference by 54 votes to 32.

During the 14th sitting of the Session on the 23rd June 1926 the personnel of the Joint Maritime Commission was announced. A motion for re-election of the members with a view to accord fair representation to the overseas members of the Organisation was put to the vote and was lost.

The Conference then proceeded to consider the question of " Seamen's Articles of Agreement, properly so-called." The Committee presented a draft Convention which contributed a real basis for securing uniformity in the marine labour legislation in the different countries. The fishing industry was excluded from the Convention and was dealt with by a special Resolution. The Draft Convention underwent no amendment of

substance in the Conference and was finally adopted by 95 votes to nil. The Resolution regarding the fishing industry was carried unanimously.

Final voting on several of the Conventions and Recommendations discussed by the Conference took place during its last two sittings. All of them except the Convention on Discipline were accepted. The unadopted Convention was therefore re-drafted as a Recommendation which was also rejected by the Conference.

Several Resolutions were carried at this Session of the Conference. The most important of these were those dealing with the subject of Hours of Work at Sea and Seamen's Welfare.

After the conclusion of the business of the Session customary closing speeches were delivered and the Session came to a close on 24th June 1926.

A Problem of Over-Population

All economists and statisticians in Germany agree in recognising that the present unemployment crisis does not merely represent the descending curve of a normal economic cycle, but is symptomatic of a far-reaching change in the national economy.

In a study published at the end of 1925 and summarised in a previous issue Dr. Strunden, Chief of Section in the German Ministry of Labour, predicted, on the basis of the available figures, that the unemployment then existing would be followed by a period of stability, or even of shortage of labour, which would reach its maximum intensity between 1930 and 1935, at the time when the labour market would begin to feel the scarcity of the younger age classes born during the war.

Taking up the problem from another angle, the Federal Statistical Office came to a different conclusion. It took the view that the presumed shortage of labour among the younger age classes born during the war would be more than balanced by the increase in the number of workers in the older age classes, and that, although between 1930 and 1935 the number of workers between 15 and 20 years of age would be lower by about 1,500,000 than the present number, the total active male population between 15 and 65 years of age would be higher than the present number by 1,200,000 in 1935 and by 2,200,000 in 1940.

On these arguments it would appear that in years to come Germany will have to face a permanent problem of over-population, which problem will be made more serious by the fact that the increase in the number of workers is particularly noticeable among the age classes between 25 and 45 years, *i.e.*, the most active years.

In the same connection it may be pointed out that the number of women on the labour market has considerably increased in comparison with the number before the war; on the other hand, persons with independent incomes have become less numerous, and the opportunities for employment formerly offered by the army and the fleet are now practically non-existent.

If all these various factors be considered, it may be concluded that, despite the diminution in her territory, present-day Germany has to find employment for between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 more workers than

before the war. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 27, 1926.*)

Protection of Women in Japan

LIVING-IN CONDITIONS

On 21st and 23rd September last, a meeting of representatives of the Bureau of Social Affairs, employers, and other advisers of the Bureau was held to consider a draft Regulation prepared by the Bureau relating to dormitories attached to factories.

It may be explained that, according to the latest figures available—relating to the end of 1924—there were at that time a little over 610,000 workers living in dormitories attached to factories; that is, about 41 per cent. of the total number of workers employed in factories under the operation of the Factory Act. Of the 610,000 workers, just under 510,000 were women. The factories concerned were mainly raw silk, cotton spinning and weaving factories, 560,000 or 92 per cent. of the workers living in dormitories being employed in such factories.

Enquiries showed that, while the dormitories attached to cotton spinning factories were comparatively satisfactory as a rule, those attached to raw silk and cotton weaving factories were, save for certain premises recently built, generally unsatisfactory from the point of view of lighting, ventilation, sanitation, etc.

Following an investigation into these conditions, the Bureau of Social Affairs drafted the abovementioned Regulation, which deals, among other points, with the following:—

The erection and repair of dormitories;

The position of the sleeping-rooms, and the provision for the prevention of fire and for sanitation;

The limitation of the number of workers to be accommodated in each sleeping-room;

Sanitary precautions as regards dining-rooms, kitchens, closets, etc.; and

The guaranteeing of freedom for workers living in dormitories.

The conference of advisers of the Bureau approved the draft Regulation. The Bureau is now consulting other Departments concerned as to the final text of the Regulation, which it was expected to promulgate during November 1926 with effect as from March 1927.

SICKNESS AMONG COTTON OPERATIVES

With a view to preserving the health of the rural population, as well as preventing the spread of tuberculosis, the Bureau of Social Affairs has decided to undertake an enquiry into the condition of female operatives in the cotton industry who return to their homes on account of sickness. The necessary instructions have been sent to local governors.

For the purpose of this investigation, forms are to be distributed among all the factories to which the Factory Act applies, containing spaces for the following information:—

(1) The nature of the ailment from which any female operative discharged from the factory on account of illness was suffering, and the stage of her ailment.

(2) Whether the operative, since her return to her home, has succumbed to the disease, and, if not, what is the present state of her health.

(3) Whether members of her family have or have not been infected.

(4) Effect of the illness on the potentiality of child-bearing.

After the first space has been filled at the factory from which an operative was discharged, the form is sent to the local police of the operative's home town, where the rest of the spaces must be filled.

The number of female operatives whose circumstances are to be investigated is estimated at 7000; of this number, 70 per cent. are suspected to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

It is expected, therefore, that the investigation will make it easier to track persons suffering from tuberculosis in its comparatively early stages and thus contribute greatly to the campaign against this disease. Further, should it be found that the state of health of the operatives in question is extremely bad, the Bureau of Social Affairs would feel itself compelled to exercise more stringent supervision over conditions in the factories from the point of view of the health of the operatives. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 13, 1926.*)

Industrial and Labour Conditions in Iraq

Very little information of an authoritative character concerning industrial and labour conditions in the British mandated territory of Iraq has so far been available. It is therefore with particular gratification that *Industrial and Labour Information* is able to give below an up-to-date (October 1926) account of labour conditions in that mandated area, based upon a memorandum which was prepared under a British Colonial Office questionnaire, and which has courteously been placed at the disposal of the International Labour Office by Sir Henry Dobbs, High Commissioner for Iraq.

GENERAL

Both the Government authorities and the British Chamber of Commerce in Iraq are agreed that there are hardly any organised industries worth mentioning in the Territory. Local industries are mostly of the "cottage" variety, namely tanning, weaving, etc., and are carried on by families from father to son. There are no "factories" in the ordinary sense of the word; hence the difficulty of applying a questionnaire drawn up for factory conditions. An attempt was, however, made to obtain particulars regarding labour conditions from the largest employers of labour in Iraq, both Government and private.

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED

The Government is the largest single employer of labour, and is responsible for a total labour force of 8894 persons, distributed between the Government railways, which employ 8129 workers, and the Port of Basrah, which employs 765 workers. Among private enterprises, the

Anglo-Persian Oil Company employs 1180, and the Turkish Petroleum Company 1500 (in October 1926 "more workers are being recruited"). The British Cotton-Growing Association employs 150 persons (25 women and girls) and Iraqui Spinning Plant in Baghdad employs 65 persons.

RATES OF WAGES

The following table gives the average rates of wages in the different undertakings in Iraq :—

Employer	Class of Workman	Wages per month in Rupees
Government		
(1) Railways	Unskilled labour	25 to 35
	Skilled labour (fitters, etc.)	50 to 150
	Superior artisans	200
	Chargemen and foremen (including station-masters, engine-drivers, etc.).	100 to 450
(2) Port	Unskilled labour	30
	Skilled labour	75 to 175
	Superior artisans and chargemen	200 to 275
Private		
(1) Anglo-Persian Oil Company (Oil fields).	Unskilled labour (pipe-laying etc.)	30 to 37-8
	Skilled labour	120 to 180
(2) Turkish Petroleum Company (Oil fields).	By arrangement between the Companies, the same as the Anglo-Persian Oil Company.	
(3) British Cotton-Growing Association (Cotton Ginning).	Unskilled labour	25
	Operators	37-8
	Mechanics	90
	Women and girls	25
	Apprentices	15
(4) Iraqui Spinning Plant	Unskilled labour	45
	Skilled labour	60
	Mechanics	75
	Apprentices	22-8

(Skilled labour, Mechanics, Apprentices: All on the machinery.)

The usual market rate for unskilled labour is one rupee a day for casual labour, or 25 rupees a month for regular work.

So far as forced labour is concerned, the rate of pay is fixed under the Forced Assistance Law by the administrative officials charged with the execution of the law. The rate recently paid for work on the bunds was one rupee per day *plus* rations.

WORKING HOURS

The railways and the port observe a 48-hour week, with Sundays free and overtime paid for at the rate of 1½ times the ordinary rate.

The Anglo-Persian Oil Company and the Turkish Petroleum Company maintain a 54-hour week for labourers and a 48-hour week for drillers and artisans, with Sundays free. Overtime work is discouraged, but, where necessary, is paid for at 1½ times the ordinary rate of pay. The British Cotton-Growing Association maintains a 48-hour week and Sundays are free. Overtime work is discouraged, but is paid, where necessary, at ordinary rates. The Spinning Plant observes a 48-hour week, with Fridays free and no overtime allowed. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 27, 1926.*)

Income and the Family

In the first two family budget enquiries conducted by the Labour Office, no provision was made in the enquiry schedule whereby information regarding the relationship of the other members of the family to its head could be obtained. When the results were tabulated, it was seen that the size of the family increased with the income. In the absence of data regarding relationships it was not possible to ascertain the significance of this phenomenon and when the family budget enquiry at Sholapur was undertaken instructions were issued to the family budget collectors, to state in the schedule, as far as it was possible to do so, the relationship of every member of the family to its head.

The purpose of this note is, briefly, to find out the type of the family prevailing among the cotton mill workers in Sholapur, the extent to which women and children help the head, the nature of and the extent to which in joint households other members of the family contribute to the family's income and the possible relation which may exist between income and the size of the family.

TYPE OF THE FAMILY

For the purposes of this investigation, families have been divided into two classes, natural and joint. It is necessary, however, to define or at least to describe these terms before attempting a further analysis of the subject. A natural family here means a family of husband, wife and unmarried children. That is to say, it includes persons who have a claim on the head of the family to be fed, housed and clothed. A joint family according to Hindu law is a family union of persons and their wives through males from a common male ancestor. In this enquiry, adherence to this definition has, however, not been possible, in as much as certain households containing descendants from the maternal side have also been included. These can, therefore, be more appropriately called joint households. And the term joint families in this enquiry should be understood as synonymous with joint households.

The total number of families studied is 943. Out of these 395 or 41·89 per cent. are natural families and 548 or 58·11 per cent. joint families. These figures prove conclusively that it is incorrect to believe that every Indian family is a joint family. In fact, over 40 per cent. of the families of a class of the community which is ignorant and uneducated and consequently likely to be less individualistic in its outlook on life, are natural families.

The table on the next page which classifies all families as natural and joint and gives the percentages of the two to the total according to income groups is of interest. The purpose of the table is to determine the relation between the type of the family and the income. It will be seen that as the

income increases the percentage of natural families to total families goes down, while in the case of joint families an exactly opposite tendency is noticeable. These tendencies are brought out very clearly by the chart on page 430 showing the percentage of natural and joint families according to income groups. And judging from the chart, it is beyond doubt that while natural families have a negative correlation with income, joint families have a positive one.

Analysis of the Nature of Families by income groups

Income groups	Total families	Natural families			Joint families		
		Number	Percent of total natural families	Percentage of total families in the group	Number	Percent of total joint families	Percentage of total families in the group
Below Rs 20 ..	75	66	16 71	88 00	9	1 64	12·00
Rs 20 and below Rs 30	207	143	36 21	69 08	64	11·68	30·92
Rs. 30 , „ Rs. 40	231	107	27·09	46 32	124	22·63	53·68
Rs 40 „ „ Rs. 50	185	54	13·67	29 19	131	23·90	70·81
Rs 50 , , Rs 60	99	22	5·57	22·22	77	14·05	77·78
Rs. 60 „ „ Rs 70	49	1	·25	2·04	48	8·76	97·96
Rs. 70 „ „ Rs 80	28	1	·25	3·57	27	4·93	96·43
Rs. 80 „ „ Rs 90	28	1	·25	3·57	27	4·93	96·43
Rs 90 „ , Rs 100	15	..	. .	.	15	2·74	100·00
Rs. 100 and over ..	26	..	...	. ..	26	4·74	100 00
All incomes ..	943	395	(100)	41 89	548	(100)	58·11

Earners in Natural Families

It has already been pointed out that, of the total number of families, 395 were natural families. Of these, 17 contained boarders. These have been excluded from the tabulation and a further analysis of only 378 natural families is attempted.

The table overleaf analyses natural families according to earners and income groups. It will be seen from the table that in 59·8 per cent. of the families the husband is the only earner; in 26·5 per cent. of the families

*Table showing Earners in Natural Families**

Earners	Income groups										All incomes	Percentage to total
	Below Rs. 20	Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40	Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50	Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	Rs. 60 and below Rs. 70	Rs. 70 and below Rs. 80	Rs. 80 and below Rs. 90	Rs. 90 and below Rs. 100	Rs. 100 and over		
Husband only	63	72	48	29	12	1	.	1	..	..	226	59·8
Husband and wife only	3	58	29	9	1	.	..		..	..	100	26·5
Husband, wife and child† only	..	.	8	.	1	.	..	.	.	.	9	2·4
Husband and child only	..	3		1	1		.	.		.	6	1 6
Husband, wife and one son‡ only	..	1	2	3				.	.	..	8	2 1
Husband and one son only	.	7	6	5	1					.	22	5 8
Husband and two sons only	..		3	2	2		.	..	..	.	7	1·8
Total ..	66	141	102	49	18	1	.	1	..	..	378	100 0

* From this table 17 natural families are excluded because they contain boarders.

† Child means a child under 14 years of age

‡ Son means a male child over 14 years of age but unmarried.

both husband and wife are earners ; in 9·7 per cent. of the cases a grown up unmarried son helps the family and in only 4 per cent. of the cases children under 14 years of age earn. This last figure has some significance having regard to the argument sometimes advanced that compulsory education of children up to a certain age would rob families of wage earners. This argument would not appear to apply with any force to mill workers in Sholapur.

Earners in Joint Families

It has already been stated that out of the 943 families 395 were natural families and 548 joint families. In 280 joint families only were all the details necessary for tabulation available and the analysis of joint families is therefore based on 280 cases only.

The table on pages 428 and 429 shows that these 280 families fall into 29 separate classes when analysed according to earners. From the point of view of the present enquiry, however, only a few broad groups are of interest. For instance, we want to know (*a*) in how many joint households and to what extent, the composition of the household increases its earnings and (*b*) the percentage of households in which from the point of view of earners they are like other natural families. It will be seen that in 46 or 16·4 per cent. of the cases the head of the family is the only earner and in 28 or 10 per cent. of the cases the head and his wife are the only earners. There are also two cases in which the head, his wife and a child earned and one in which the head and a child earned. It is not however known in these three cases to whom the child belonged, whether to the head or to any other member of the family. But leaving aside these three cases it is clear that in at least 26·4 per cent. of the cases, though the household is a joint one the other members do not contribute anything to the income of the family.

It will also be seen from the table that in 70 or 25 per cent. of the cases the joint family consists of two earners, the head and one other adult male.

Composition of Families

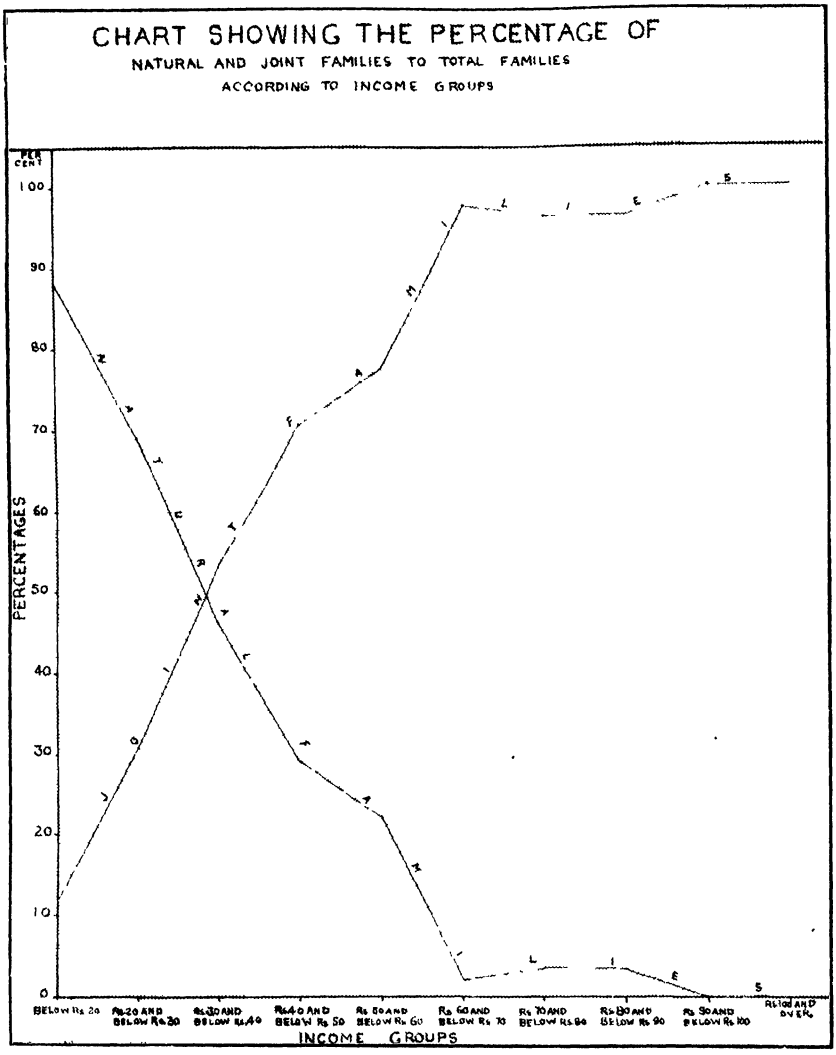
It is germane to the present enquiry not only to distinguish between the types of families but also to discuss their composition. This is however only possible in the case of natural families where the relationships are fewer and more clearly stated.

The table on page 431 shows that in 91 or 24 per cent. of the cases the family consisted of husband and wife only, in 102 or 26·9 per cent. of the cases it consisted of husband, wife and one child, in 94 or 24·8 per cent. of the cases it consisted of husband, wife and two children, in 45 or 11·9 per cent. of the cases it consisted of husband, wife and three children, in 30 or 7·9 per cent. of the cases it consisted of husband, wife and four

Earners in Joint Families

Earners	Income Groups											
	Below Rs. 20	Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40	Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50	Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	Rs. 60 and below Rs. 70	Rs. 70 and below Rs. 80	Rs. 80 and below Rs. 90	Rs. 90 and below Rs. 100	Rs. 100 and over	All incomes	Per-centage to total
Head only	6	13	12	10	1	2	1	.	..	1	46	16·43
Head and wife only	..	11	10	2	3	2	..	.	..	..	28	10·00
Head, wife and one adult male only	..	2	3	14	8	4	3	1	..	..	35	12·50
Head, wife and two adult males only	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	2	1	..	8	2·85
Head, wife and three adult males only	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	1	.	..	4	1 43
Head, wife and four adult males only	.	..	..	..	..	..	.	1	.	1	2	·71
Head and one adult male only	..	5	25	16	11	4	6	1	1	1	70	25·00
Head and two adult males only	..	..	3	6	5	5	1	1	1	5	72	9·64
Head and three adult males only	..	..	..	.	1	3	1	1	1	1	8	2·85
Head, wife and one adult female only	..	..	4	1	3	..	..	.	.	.	8	2·85
Head, wife and two adult females only	..	..	1	..	..	.	..	.	..	..	1	·36
Head and one adult female only	1	8	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	4·64
Head and two adult females only	..	1	2	..	.	..	..		.	..	3	1·07
Head, wife, one adult male and one adult female only	..	..	1	1	2	1	2	..	.	..	7	2·50
Head, wife, two adult males and two adult females only	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	1	1	·36

Head, wife, one adult male and two adult females only	..	..	.	..	..	.	1	..	..	1	·36	
Head, wife, two adult males and one adult female only	..	..	.	.	..	1	..	1	..	1	3	1·07
Head, one adult male and one adult female only ..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	1·07	
Head, one adult male and two adult females only ..	..	.	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	·36
Head, two adult males and one adult female only ..	..	..	1	.	..	..	.	..	..	1	·36	
Head, four adult males and two adult females only ..	..	.	..	..	..	.	..	..	1	..	1	·36
Head, wife and child only..	..	2	..	..	..	.	.	..	..	..	2	·71
Head and child only ..	..	.	..	..	..	.	..	..	1	..	1	·36
Head, wife, one adult male and child only ..	..	.	.	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	·36
Head, wife, two adult males and child only ..	..	.		..	..	1	.	.	..	..	1	·36
Head, wife, one adult female and child only ..	..		..		1			.	.	..	1	·36
Head, wife, one adult male and one female child only	.	..	..	.	.	..						
Head, two adult males, one adult female and child only	..	.	.	.	..	..	1	.	..	..	1	·36
Head, two wives, two adult males and one adult female only ..	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	1	1	·36
Total ...	7	40	67	55	36	30	16	11	6	12	280	100·00



children and in the remaining (excepting two cases of husband and two wives and three cases of husband, two wives and three children) or 3·0 per cent. of cases it consisted of more than four children. It will thus be seen that a quarter of the families are childless, a quarter of them contain one child, a quarter have two children and the rest more than two children. If an actual average is struck there are 1·6 children to each family.*

* The figure 1 6 children per family is a crude one since we do not know the age distribution of the families, nor is there any guarantee that the sample is thoroughly representative.

Composition of Natural Families

Families with	Limits of monthly income						Total	Percentage of total natural families
	Below Rs. 20	Rs. 20 and below Rs. 30	Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40	Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50	Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	Rs. 60 and below Rs. 90		
Husband and wife	23	36	15	9	7	1	91	24·0
Husband, wife and one child	22	38	25	14	3	.	102	26·9
Husband, wife and 2 children	13	36	34	10	1	.	94	24·8
Husband, wife and 3 children	7	14	14	5	4	1	45	11·9
Husband, wife and 4 children	1	12	8	8	1		30	7·9
Husband, wife and 5 children	..	1	3	3	1	..	8	2·1
Husband, wife and 6 children	.		1	..		.	1	·3
Husband, wife and 7 children		1	..				1	·3
Husband, wife and 8 children . . .			1				1	·3
Husband and 2 wives	..	2	.	.			2	·6
Husband, 2 wives and 3 children	..	1	1		1		3	·9
Total ..	66	141	102	49	18	2	378	100·0

Welfare Work in the Bombay Presidency

Results of Labour Office Enquiry

In the month of May 1926, the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour, requested all Provincial Governments to collect full and comprehensive information with regard to the measures undertaken and the efforts made to ameliorate the conditions under which the workers live when they are not actually employed. The enquiry originated as the result of the Recommendation adopted by the Sixth Session of the International Labour Conference in connexion with the development of facilities for the utilisation of workers' spare time. A copy of this Recommendation was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1924. Together with the Recommendation, the Sixth Session of the Conference adopted the following resolution, asking the Governments to supply the International Labour Office with information on this subject :—

> "The Conference invites the International Labour Office, keeping in touch with the various Governments, to collect and keep up-to-date information concerning the use of spare time, and on the basis of the information communicated by the Members or obtained from other sources, to publish regularly studies of the action taken and the results obtained in the different countries in the application of measures which have for their object the proper use of the workers' spare time."

The utilisation of the spare time of industrial workers is a matter which has received but little attention in India, where such efforts as have been made in the direction of ameliorating workers' conditions take the form more of providing medical aid, minor educational facilities and housing. This type of work is more appropriately designated by the generic term "Welfare Work" which also includes within its scope the few activities expressly directed towards the development of the physical, intellectual, material and moral powers which is the object of those interested in the proper use of the workers' spare time. In order to make the enquiry more comprehensive, the Government of India directed Local Governments to collect information on welfare work done by Employers' and Workers' Associations for the benefit of workers. With a view to facilitate the enquiry, two forms were drawn up by the Government of India : (1) Form A for use by employers ; and Form B for use by private associations of social workers and associations of industrial workers who have undertaken schemes of welfare work for special groups of workers or for workers in general.

The Government of Bombay in the General Department requested the Labour Office to conduct the enquiry in connexion with this subject for the Bombay Presidency including Sind and Aden. Copies of the Government of India letter and the relevant literature on the subject including copies of Forms A and B, as the case might be, were forwarded direct to all the large labour employing establishments such as Textile Mills, Engineering Workshops, the Railways, Public Utility Companies, the Municipalities of Bombay and Karachi, the Port Trusts, the Improvement Trust and

selected Government factories and departments engaging substantial numbers of industrial workers; and to all associations of social workers and workers' organisations known to conduct welfare work, with a request to furnish information. The Bombay and the Ahmedabad Millowners' Associations and the Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation were requested to co-operate in the enquiry by asking their individual members to supply the Labour Office with the information required. Divisional Commissioners, Collectors of Districts and several Heads of Government offices in the Bombay Presidency were asked to make enquiries and to suggest to the Labour Office the names of any persons, establishments or bodies, other than Textile mills, who might be known to undertake this kind of work. The Collectors of Kaira, Broach, Surat, Thana, West Khandesh, Nasik, Poona, Satara, Kolaba, Ratnagiri, Belgaum, Bijapur, Larkana, Hyderabad and the Nawabshah districts and the Deputy Commissioner of Upper Sind Frontier reported that there were no employers' or workers' organisations who undertook welfare work of the type indicated in the territories under their jurisdictions. The Missionary Societies who do excellent work in the direction of social welfare by conducting hospitals, maintaining homes for Lepers, maintaining and conducting churches, schools and industrial workshops for the benefit of all classes of the community, were not considered to be organisations of the type which the International Labour Office and the Government of India intended to include in the classes of persons and associations who do work solely, either for the proper utilisation of workers' spare time, or for the amelioration of the conditions under which workers live when they are not actually employed. The latter remarks also apply to associations and organisations of the type of the Blind Relief Association, Maternity and Infant Welfare Associations, the Lady Dufferin Hospital, the Karachi Health Association and the Ishwarbai Maternity Home.

Out of 87 Textile mills addressed in Bombay City, 5 mills were not working and 6 mills did not send in returns. For the remaining mills, the return for the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute covered 6 mills and 64 forms were received for 70 mills. Fifty-nine out of the 63 mills addressed in Ahmedabad supplied information in 55 forms and all the 5 mills in Sholapur City furnished returns. Four mills in Ahmedabad were not working. Out of 25 textile mills in the rest of the British Districts of the Bombay Presidency only 11 sent in information. The mills in the Native States lying within the territories of the Bombay Presidency were not included within the sphere of the enquiry. It will be seen that out of a total of 180 textile mills which were addressed in the British Districts of the Bombay Presidency, information was received for 151 mills.

Both the Bombay Municipality and the Karachi Municipality, the Bombay Improvement Trust, the Bombay and the Karachi Port Trusts, the G. I. P., the M. & S. M. and the B. B. & C. I. Railways, the Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company, the Bombay Gas Company and three large establishments under the group "Engineering and other Trades" sent in returns. From Government Departments information was received

from the Director, Royal Indian Marine Dock Yard, the Mint Master, H. M.'s Mint, Bombay, the Director of Posts and Telegraphs and the Government Presses at Nasik, Bombay, Yeravda and Karachi. With regard to Aden, information was received through the Political Resident for four miscellaneous concerns. The other returns from Aden were not applicable to industrial workers. In addition to the above the Belapur Sugar Company in the Ahmednagar District also submitted a return. The number of workers covered by the Employer's Organisations which furnished information amounted to about 475,000.

There are comparatively very few organisations of social workers or of Industrial Associations in the Bombay Presidency which undertake welfare work for the benefit of workers. The most notable Institutions are the Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union in Ahmedabad City and the Young Men's Christian Association, the Social Service League and the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute in Bombay. The last is not exactly an association organised by outside social workers or by workers themselves. It is maintained by Messrs. Currimbhoy Ebrahim & Sons, Ltd., for the benefit of the operatives of eight establishments under their control and was founded in the year 1918 at the instance of Sir Fazulbhoy Currimbhoy with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Company.

The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabba used to undertake a considerable amount of welfare work for all classes of industrial workers some years ago but this once-very-useful organisation exists almost as a mere name today and its welfare activities are mostly confined to the organisations of " tamashas " on festival days.

With the exception of the Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union and some Postal Unions no other Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency carry on specific welfare activities for the benefit of their members. Some Unions have organised Co-operative Credit Societies and various kinds of funds for specific benefits such as Death and Retirement Benefits, Unemployment and Sickness benefits, etc., but as this type of work has not been included in the forms laid down by the Government of India it was not considered necessary to include these and similar activities within the scope of this enquiry.

All the mills in Sholapur and a few mills in Ahmedabad and Bombay sent in information regarding the " creches " conducted by them. The Labour Office has just completed an independant enquiry of its own in connexion with creches in the Ahmedabad textile mills, the results of which were published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1926. But as no information was specifically asked for regarding work in this direction, the inclusion of the work done by a few mills in this respect would not be representative unless similar information was collected for the whole Presidency. It is the intention of the Labour Office to complete its studies of creches in the Bombay Presidency during the year 1927 and the results will be published from time to time in the *Labour Gazette*. This subject has not, therefore, been dealt with in summarising the returns collected.

The method followed in summarising the information procured is as follows. Each of the two major heads—(1) Employers; and (2) Social

workers or Industrial Workers' Associations from whom returns were collected in Forms A and B respectively—have been dealt with separately. The subject-headings are taken in the order in which they appear in each form. Under each subject heading the information collected has been summarised by classes of industries and types of establishments according to territorial units.

I. WELFARE WORK DONE BY EMPLOYERS

A. EDUCATION

1. Provision of Schools

Out of 76 textile mills in Bombay City which supplied information, 10 mills reported that provision had been made for schools for children employed. The average daily attendance at these schools was 144. Thirteen mills provided schools for the children of employees with an attendance of 172 and nine mills reported schools for adult employees with an attendance which amounted to 146. In the case of the Ahmedabad mills, the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association give an annual donation of Rs. 15,000 from the interest which accrues from the Tilak Swaraj Fund to the Ahmedabad Labour Union for conducting schools both for children employed and for children of employees and also for adult employees. A few mills, however, provide their own schools. The attendance at three such schools provided for children employed amounted to 120 and at two schools provided for children of employees to 133. One mill has a combined schools for adult employees and for children with an average attendance of 55. All five mills in Sholapur City provide schools for children employed. One mill did not give data for numbers attending. The attendance at the schools provided by four mills amounted to 1069. Four mills provide schools for children of employees and the attendance at these was 124. One mill also has a school for adult employees with an average attendance of 46. Out of 11 mills which submitted returns from the mills addressed in the rest of the Presidency, three mills reported that they provided schools for their child workers. One mill did not furnish information with regard to numbers attending. The attendance at the two other schools was 86. Three mills have schools for children of employees at which the attendance amounted to 310. Forty-seven adult employees took advantage of a school provided for them in one case.

The Belapur Sugar Company at Ahmednagar has a school for children of employees at which the attendance amounted to 50. One concern in Aden reported that a school is provided for children employed at which vocational training is given, but no information was supplied as to numbers attending. No provision for education appears to be made in any of the other factories, workshops or concerns included under the head "Engineering and Other Trades."

No children are employed on Railways, but all the three Railways which furnished information provide schools for children of employees. The attendance at these schools amounted to 1953. The schools are maintained only at certain important stations. The G. I. P. Railway provides seven Primary Schools and one European Middle School and it also gives

annual subsidies to Municipal and other schools at several centres. The M. & S. M. Railway has 23 schools out of which 18 are for children of European and Anglo-Indian employees and five for children of Indian employees. Six of these are middle schools and the remainder Primary. With regard to the education of adult employees all Railways have technical schools for apprentices in certain departments. The M. & S. M. Railway provides a night school for illiterate employees in addition to Technical Trade Schools for Workshop employees. Public Utility Companies provide no educational facilities except for the training of apprentices but no information was supplied regarding these.

The Bombay and the Karachi Port Trusts do not provide any schools for employees but the Bombay Port Trust has three schools for children of employees (1) at Wari Bunder for children of Dock labourers with an attendance of 115 and (2) and (3) at Wadala and at Antop Village for the children of railway and other employees with attendances of 300 and 130 respectively and the Karachi Port Tust provides schooling for 125 children.

No special facilities are provided by Municipalities for the education of their own employees. Children employed and the children of Municipal employees have access to Municipal schools. The Karachi Municipality assists in the payment of the fees for the Secondary Education of the children of its employees. The Bombay Improvement Trust gives free accommodation in the chawls in the Sion-Matunga Scheme to three schools which are conducted by various Missions for children of employees. The attendance at these schools amounted to 200. Government Departments do not provide schools specifically for their employees or for the children of employees. All such children have admission to Government and Municipal Schools but a school is maintained for the children of the paid staff of the Yeravda Central Prison and the Yeravda Prison Press at which 158 children attended in the year 1926.

2. *Provision for Reading-rooms, Writing-rooms and Libraries*

Very little provision is made by employers for providing reading-rooms or libraries for their employees. The main factor governing this would appear to be the illiteracy of the majority of Indian workers. The Currimbhoy Workmen's Institute in Bombay has a good library and a reading room, for the benefit of the operatives of six mills, and a Printing Press, under the control of Messrs. Currimbhoy Ebrahim & Sons, Ltd. Apart from this only four other mills out of the 70 textile Mills in Bombay City which furnished returns provide reading-rooms. Two mills have small libraries and one mill provides a writing-room in addition. In Ahmedabad four mills have general reading-rooms for all operatives and one mill for weavers only. In Sholapur two mills provide reading-rooms and one has a library. Out of the 11 mills which furnished returns from the mills addressed in the Rest of the Presidency only one mill reported that provision was made for a library.

All Railways provide Institutes at various important stations. These institutes generally have reading-rooms and libraries attached to them. The Bombay Port Trust also has a similar institute. Apart from these organisations the returns as far as this matter is concerned were negative.

B. HEALTH

The provision of facilities for medical attendance and the supply of medicines appears to be fairly general in all the larger labour employing organisations in the Bombay Presidency. Out of 76 Textile Mills in Bombay City which supplied information (including six mills for which information was received through the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute), 68 mills reported that they maintained dispensaries for the supply of medicines. Four mills provide only medical attendance and three mills supply ordinary drugs such as quinine, liniments, etc. Only one mill in Bombay reported that no provision had been made either for medical attendance or for the supply of medicines. In most cases the dispensaries are attended by qualified medical practitioners and in a few instances arrangements are made for the attendance of a doctor at the workers' homes in cases of serious illness. No charge whatever is made in 66 mills. One mill charges one anna per head per month for medical attendance only and in another mill one anna per head per month is charged for those earning less than Rs. 7 per month and 2 annas per head per month for those earning Rs. 7 per month and over. Five mills make nominal charges for the supply of medicines. Two mills charge about two annas per head and another deducts two pies in the rupee on wages earned upto a maximum of four annas. One mill charges two annas per head per month for all workers except those earning less than Rs. 7 per mensem. In the fifth case the charge is one to two annas per head according to earnings. Three mills charge for both medical attendance and for medicines supplied. In one case 3 per cent. of the Wages Bill is set apart for this purpose. In another the charge is one pie in the rupee for each employee and in the third case two annas per head per month is charged for those earning more than Rs. 30 per month whilst workers who earn Rs. 30 per month and under are treated free. Thirteen mills did not supply any information with regard to the numbers treated principally because no records had been maintained. In the remaining mills the daily average number treated amounted to about 2000.

Out of 59 working mills in Ahmedabad 10 mills have no provision whatever for medical aid of any kind and in eight cases only a few patent medicines and ordinary drugs are supplied. The remaining mills make provision for both medical attendance and the supply of medicines. Four mills maintain hospitals in addition to dispensaries for the treatment of out-door patients. No charge whatever is made in any of the Ahmedabad Mills for medical aid. Twenty-five mills which supplied information for numbers treated reported that the average daily number of patients dealt with amounted to 850.

All the five mills in Sholapur City provide both medical attendance and medicines. One mill maintains a hospital and three mills have maternity homes in addition. A charge of one anna per head per month is made in the case of one mill for the supply of medicines. In the other mills treatment is free. Four mills which kept records of numbers treated reported that the average daily number of patients treated amounted to about 350. Out of 11 mills which sent in returns from the mills addressed in British territory in the Rest of the Bombay Presidency 3 mills reported that no

provision had been made for medical aid whilst three mills reported that they stocked a few patent medicines and ordinary drugs only. Five mills provided full medical aid and one mill maintained a Maternity Home in addition. The average daily number of cases treated in 4 mills which returned information under this head amounted to about 60. Seven mills make no charge for medical aid and in one case there is a nominal charge of one anna per head per month.

Out of the five organisations covered under the head " Engineering and Other Trades " in Bombay City, four concerns provide full medical aid and in one case only first aid is given. The number of employees treated in three concerns amounted to about 90 per day. Treatment in all cases is free. The Belapur Sugar Company at Ahmednagar also maintains a free dispensary but no record is kept of the number treated. All the four Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories in Mirpurkhas which furnished information supply free medical aid. The daily average number of patients dealt with in three cases was reported as 7. The four miscellaneous concerns which supplied information from Aden also reported that provision had been made for free medical assistance but no other information was given.

All the three Railways which were covered in the enquiry provide Hospitals at the bigger stations, dispensaries at convenient centres along the lines and for full medical aid in all necessary cases. Complete data is not available for numbers treated. The charges for different kinds of attendance and treatment at employees' residences are graded according to earnings but no charge is generally made for attendance and medicines supplied at the hospitals and dispensaries. The Railways also subsidise Municipal and other dispensaries in a few cases. Among Public Utility Companies, the Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company maintain a dispensary with one senior and three assistant Medical Officers for the benefit of the outdoor traffic and workshops staff. The employees in other departments are supplied with medicine when sick and are attended by the Company's doctor in cases of accidents. The Bombay Gas Company only stock ordinary medicines at their works. Treatment in both cases is free. The average daily number of persons treated at the Tramways dispensary amounted to 170.

The Bombay Port Trust maintains special dispensaries with qualified medical men in attendance for each department. The average daily number of persons treated is reported at 168 and no charge is made for treatment. The Karachi Port Trust provides a free dispensary with a Medical Officer at Manora where the majority of the employees in the Chief Engineer's and Port Officer's Departments live. It also contributes towards the expenditure of the Municipal Dispensary at Keamari. The average daily number of cases dealt with at the Manora dispensary was reported at 62.

The Bombay Municipality maintains two special small dispensaries at Love Grove and Kurla for the benefit of the employees in the Love Grove Pumping Station and the Kurla Deonur Railway and Reclamation Works. All other Municipal employees are treated at the several Municipal Dispensaries which the Bombay Municipality provides in the city.

The procedure with regard to the employees of the Karachi Municipality is similar to that in the Bombay Municipality. No charge is made for treatment and no separate figures are available for the actual number of municipal workers treated.

The Bombay Improvement Trust provides four dispensaries for out-door and two hospitals for indoor patients. The daily average number of patients dealt with in the dispensaries amounted to 20 and to 4 in the hospitals. Treatment is free and the employees of the Trust receive half pay whilst being treated in the Improvement Trust hospitals.

Among Government Departments in Bombay the Royal Indian Marine Dockyard maintains a dispensary under a permanent medical officer. No charge is made for treatment and the number of cases dealt with is 24 per day. The Back Bay Reclamation Scheme also maintains dispensaries under special medical subordinates. A hospital with 6 beds is provided in the camp at Kandivlee. Other Government Departments in Bombay City send their employees to Government hospitals. The Yeravda Prison Hospital gives free medical aid to the employees of the Yeravda Prison Press. The Security Printing Press at Nasik has a dispensary with a sub-assistant Surgeon. No figures are available for the number of persons treated and the question whether any charge should be made for medical aid is reported as being under the consideration of the Government of India.

C. HOUSING, ETC.

Out of 76 Textile Mills in Bombay which furnished information for the purposes of this enquiry, 28 mills reported that housing had been provided for their workers. Seven out of these mills provide residential accommodation only for Ramosees, gatekeepers and night watchmen and the rooms provided are supplied free of rent. The number accommodated was reported at 147. Twenty-two mills provide partial housing for all operatives who desire to take advantage of the special facilities offered. The total number of employees working in these mills amounted to 64,720 and the number of workers who lived in the tenements provided by the employers amounted to 12,149 or about 20 per cent. Full economic rent was charged in two cases and one mill let their rooms partly at a favourable and partly at the full economic rent. Fifteen mills charged favourable rent and four mills gave some tenements free and let the remainder at rents which were less than the economic rent. Sixteen mills supplied information with regard to the percentages of the rents charged to economic rents. In three cases 30 to 40 per cent. was charged, in nine cases 40 to 50 per cent., in three cases 50 to 75 per cent. and in one case above 75 per cent.

In the Textile Industry in Ahmedabad 37 mills provided housing for their employees. Out of these two mills gave free accommodation to their Ramosees, gatekeepers and night watchmen. Thirty-five mills provided tenements for all classes of employees. The numbers of workers working in these mills amounted to 34,714 and the number who took advantage of the housing provided amounted to 5605 or 16 per cent. of the total number employed. This statement, however, requires qualification. It does not mean that housing was provided for all workers engaged. Full economic rent was charged by nine mills and one mill

charged rent partly at the full economic value and partly on a favourable basis. Eighteen mills reported on the percentages of the rents charged to economic rents. In one case 25 per cent. was charged, in one case 50 per cent., in five cases 60 to 65 per cent., in two cases 70 per cent., in five cases 75 per cent., in two cases 80 per cent. and in two cases 85 to 90 per cent.

All five mills in Sholapur City provide housing for their employees but the accommodation provided is not sufficient to house all the 20,000 odd workers who work in these mills. The number of workers who were reported to have taken advantage of the facilities thus offered amounted to 2,406 or 12 per cent. of the total cotton mill labour force in that city. Favourable rent was charged by all mills. In two cases the rent charged was 25 per cent. of the economic rent, in one case 50 per cent., in one case 50 to 60 per cent. and in one case 85 per cent.

Out of 11 textile mills which sent in returns from the mills addressed in the rest of the British Districts of the Bombay Presidency, 10 mills provide housing. In one case 50 employees are accommodated rent free. In another case 25 employees out of 250 who live in the housing provided are charged no rent. The total number of employees in the 10 mills amounted to 13,322 and the number who were accommodated in the tenements provided amounted to 5,568 or 42 per cent. Full economic rent was charged by one mill. 40 to 45 per cent. of the economic rent was charged in one case, 50 per cent. in four cases and 75 per cent., in one case. Two mills gave no information regarding this point.

Among the concerns included in the group "Engineering and other Trades" only three establishments provide free housing for sepoys and gatekeepers. The number accommodated is 30. Three out of the four ginning and pressing factories in Mirpurkhas supply free accommodation for 26 employees out of a total number of 900 workers employed. All the four miscellaneous concerns reporting from Aden also provide free accommodation for their employees. In one case accommodation is given to only a limited number of workers. In another case housing is provided only for those who are sent for from India. In two cases huts are provided and the number reported as taking advantage of them is 30.

With reference to the Railways, the B. B. & C. I. Railway provides full housing for all Railway employees at stations where no houses have been built by private enterprise. Some employees are entitled to free quarters on account of the nature of their work. In other cases housing is provided, if available, at either the economic rent or 10 per cent. of the employees' salary, whichever is less. The G. I. P. Railway also provide free housing in cases where members of the staff have to live near their work and also for the menial staff. Where rents are charged these are calculated on a plinth area basis subject to a maximum of ten per cent. of the employees' monthly wages. In no case is rent charged at a figure higher than the economic rent and in most cases rents are favourable to the employees. The number of employees reported as living in the accommodation provided by this Railway amounted to 8,259. The M. & S. M. Railway similarly provide accommodation in all cases where it is essential that the staff should reside in the vicinity of their work. In a large number of

cases no rent is charged but where it is charged it does not exceed ten per cent. of salary. The number reported as availing themselves of the facilities offered is 2325. Among Public Utility Companies the Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company accommodated 812 of their employees at a rent which is 20 per cent. below the economic rent.

The Bombay Port Trust has provided housing for its employees. The number of employees reported as living in the Port Trust chawls is 4559. In some cases housing is provided free of rent; in others they are charged ten per cent. of their wages or a fixed rent which is below the economic rent. The Karachi Port Trust provides a limited number of free tenements in which 600 employees are accommodated.

The Municipality of Bombay has provided several chawls for the housing of its employees. The number reported as residing in the accommodation available is 5704. All the workers at the Kurla-Deonur Railway and Reclamation Works and at the Pumping and Compressor Stations are given free quarters. Nominal rent is charged in most other cases and this is based on a ratio of 3 to 8 to the economic rent. In a few cases rent is charged at 10 per cent. of the salary. The Karachi Municipality provides free housing to approximately 500 of its employees and those who are not given free quarters receive Rs. 4 per head per month as house rent allowance. The employees of the Bombay Improvement Trust are housed free of charge from time to time in Labour Camps which are erected in the vicinity of the works in progress at any particular date. The number of employees who were reported as living is such camps at the time of making the return for this enquiry was approximately 5000.

Among Government Departments in Bombay City, the Back Bay Reclamation Scheme has provided free housing for all its employees, *viz.*, 2053 in number. The Post and Telegraphs Department provides free quarters to employees in its Line Staff and gives a house rent allowance of Rs. 2 per head per month to those who are not provided with such quarters. In the Development Department's Works in the Housing and Suburban Circles free housing is provided in buildings under construction and in temporary huts to 250 contractors' men and to 50 of the Department's own employees. The Government Security Printing Press at Nasik has free quarters for 250 employees and those who are not provided with tenements are given a house rent allowance.

Both the Government of Bombay and the Bombay Improvement Trust have done a great deal towards easing the problem of industrial housing in Bombay City. The scheme originally outlined by the Development Directorate aimed at a construction programme of 50,000 tenements providing accommodation for a quarter million workpeople and to be completed within a period of eight years. This scheme was conceived in the boom period when labour conditions in Bombay were probably abnormal. By the end of December 1926 the Directorate had 16,544 tenements completely ready for occupation out of which 5182 were let. Government have decided that until the tenements now provided are fully occupied no additional land is to be taken up for Industrial Housing and that no new schemes are to be embarked upon without Government approval. The average economic rent of the chawls works out at Rs. 16

per month per tenement. The rents fixed for the present vary from Rs. 5-8-0 per month per tenement at Worli to Rs. 9-8-0 at DeLisle Road. On this basis there is an annual loss of about Rs. 20 lakhs and this is being met from the cotton cess and some other sources.

The Bombay Improvement Trust had a total number of 8493 tenements ready at the end of December 1926 out of which 8251 tenements were let for living purposes, 128 as shops, 59 as godowns and 10 as schools. Forty-five tenements were reserved for occupation by Mukadams, for officers and stores, and as Superintendents' Quarters. The floor area of each tenement inclusive of a small verandah varied from 125 square feet to 176 square feet but the majority of the tenements were provided with the maximum floor space allowed. The average rent for a tenement in an Improvement Trust Chawl works out at Rs. 5-10-0 but the actual rents varied from Rs. 4-4-0 to Rs. 15-5-0. The maximum permissible population in adults for a total of 8251 tenements has been fixed at 37,699. The actual population living in these tenements, at the end of the year 1926, was 26,058 or 23,799 when equalised to adults.

With regard to the question of provision for agricultural or garden land for employees, two mills in Ahmedabad City reported that some workers were provided with plots for kitchen gardens and the Bombay Port Trust reported that several of the quarters occupied by employees are provided with garden spaces. Apart from these instances, the questionnaire with regard to this question was returned blank by all the other employers who submitted returns.

D. RECREATION

Among Cotton Mills in Bombay City, four mills have provided playgrounds for the benefit of their employees but three of these mills reported that none of their workers take advantage of the facilities offered. In one case where provision has been made for football, cricket, etc., the majority of the workers are reported as taking part in the games. One mill has provided two gymnasiums, one for Mahars and the other for Mahrattas. The number taking exercise in the first was reported as 50 and in the second as 65. One mill provides a hall for indoor games but no statistics are available with regard to the number of workpeople making use of it. With regard to the question of entertainments, one mill regularly arranges for dramatic performances, cinema shows, religious discourses and open air lectures. All the workers in this mill (about 3000) take advantage of these entertainments and the attendance at the open air lectures is reported as averaging 2000. Another mill provides for lectures, magic lantern shows, etc., and the majority of the operatives of the mill present themselves at these shows.

The Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute provides a gymnasium, a social club, a cricket club and makes periodic arrangements for sports and excursions. The gymnasium is located in a spacious shed in the compound of the Institute and is equipped with all the requirements for Indian exercises and a wrestling pit. The average membership was 54. At the Social Club arrangements have been made for selling tea and refreshments of good quality at reasonable rates for all the workers of the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Mills. Eight thousand three-hundred-and-five workers were reported as taking

advantage of the arrangements and the sales amounted to Rs. 3500 during the year 1925. Two sports meetings were arranged in December 1924 and in March 1925 when 175 workers took part in the various prize competitions provided such as wrestling matches, running races, physical feats, long and high jumps, tug of war, etc. In August 1925 an excursion of 175 workers was arranged for a visit to the Jogeshwari Caves. Three motor lorries were obtained from the mills for the purpose and in addition to refreshments, a variety of Indian games, a cricket match, running races, music and hill climbing competitions were provided. The membership of the Cricket Club is reported as 24. In addition to the above, the Institute stages dramatic performances about three times a month, conducts magic lantern lectures and social gatherings and provides a Harmonium and a gramophone for the benefit of its members.

Among the Ahmedabad mills, one mill provides an open ground for sports. Another mill started a Cricket Club but none of the workers took advantage of it. In two cases rooms are provided for prayers. One mill has a gymnasium and provides periodic entertainments for half-timers and young children. Bioscope shows are arranged occasionally by one mill but apart from these instances, the returns from the Ahmedabad mills, under the head " Recreation " were all blank.

Three out of the five cotton mills in Sholapur provide facilities for outdoor sports. Two mills have Athletic Clubs with a Cricket Ground and Tennis courts ; and Athletic Sports, at which prizes are distributed, are held once a year. One mill has its own Cricket and Hockey teams and a special sports ground for half-timers where the majority of the children employed regularly play all kinds of games. Sweets and eatables are given to the children on the playground oft and on in order to encourage them to take healthy exercises. The same mill has also started a Boy Scouts Movement. The troop strength is 120. The scouts have an head-quarters and they are given prizes for good turns when they play indoor games. The scouts are also provided with their own special playground for out-door sports. Four mills in Sholapur provide gymnasiums with wrestling pits. The average daily attendance at the gymnasium of one mill is reported at 50. With regard to entertainments one mill has an Amateur Dramatic Club which stages Marathi plays from time to time for the amusement of the employees of that mill.

Out of the 11 upcountry mills which submitted returns one mill reported that provision had been made for suitable playing fields, a football ground, two tennis courts and three wrestling rooms. The loan of the school hall is given at a very low cost to touring Dramatic Companies for staging plays and it is also used for various other entertainments which are organised from time to time. Another mill provides a Sports Ground and a third mill arranges for Cinema and Dramatic shows when convenient. These are attended by about 50 per cent. of the operatives.

Among the concerns included in the group " Engineering and Other Trades " only one establishment in Ahmednagar provides a sports ground for its employees.

All the Railways provide Recreational Clubs or Institutes as they are called, at all important stations on their lines. These Institutes contain

reading rooms and libraries, tennis courts, and in many cases, football and hockey grounds and billiard rooms. There is generally a small subscription for membership of the Institute or for a particular section such as Billiards, Tennis, etc. The members organise their own entertainments such as Dramatic shows, Whist Drives, Dances and periodic sports. Membership of the Institutes is generally confined to the better paid Railway employees and their families and is not open to the lower grade and menial establishments.

Among Public Utility Companies in Bombay City, the Bombay Gas Company has provided a building and grounds which are known as the Bombay Gas Company's Social Club. It is run by a Committee which is composed of employees of the Company. The Committee takes over the full management of the entertainments as far as the building is concerned and also runs the Sports Section including cricket, tennis, billiards, etc. The Company reports that generally speaking only a small number of its employees avail themselves of these facilities.

Municipalities make no special recreational provisions for their own employees. Municipal employees have free access to all Municipal grounds and gardens which are open to all sections of the community; but the Bombay Municipality has provided a gymnasium and a Wrestling Pit for the workers who are engaged at the Kurla-Deonur Railway and Reclamation Works.

The Bombay Port Trust provides land on various parts of the Port Trust estate for playgrounds and recreational purposes and it also maintains an Institute with two tennis courts at Mazagon for the members of its Engineering Staff and an Institute at Wadala for the Railway staff. Cinema demonstrations of an instructional character are arranged for from time to time. The Bombay Improvement Trust maintains a Cricket Club and forms a Hockey Team when possible. It also provides a gymnasium for its workers and arranges for occasional cinematograph entertainments at the Cooly Camps.

Among Government Departments in the Bombay Presidency, only the Security Printing Press at Nasik provides a Club House and a Games Ground for Supervisors, overseers and the office staff. No other provision is made by Government Departments for the recreation of their manual labourers.

B. EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF SOCIAL WORKERS

1. EDUCATION

(a) *Provision of Schools*

The Social Service League conducts ten night schools in different parts of Bombay City for the benefit of workers in Mills, Factories and Workshops. Four of these schools are Anglo-Urdu, one Anglo-Marathi, one Anglo-Gujarati, one Primary Gujarati, one English Middle, one English up to 6th standard and one English High School. The average attendance at all the ten schools amounts to about 350 per day. Most of the students belong to the working classes and are themselves wage earners. The

League has started two Boys' Clubs in two of the Anglo-Urdu schools in order to train the students to manage their own activities.

The Young Men's Christian Association conducts a night school for the benefit of cotton mill workers at the Development Department's chawls at Naigaum in Bombay. The subjects taught are English, Urdu and Marathi. The total daily average attendance is 70 of whom 25 are adult workers, 25 child workers and the remainder children of workers.

The Textile Labour Union in Ahmedabad conducts nine schools for children employed and for children of employees, 15 schools for adult employees and one nursery school for children below 5. The figures for the daily average attendance are 710, 650 and 30 respectively. The annual expenditure on the Nursery School alone amounts to Rs. 3000 and on the schools for adults and children nearly Rs. 25,000.

Out of nine Postal Unions which furnished information under one or more heads two Unions reported that they conduct evening classes for the benefit of postmen in the lower grade and menial establishment. The subjects taught are English, Arithmetic, Geography and vernacular languages and the attendance amounts to 35.

The Shewa Mandli at Rohri conducts a night school at its branch at Ubauro with an attendance of 30.

(b) Provision for Libraries and Reading-Rooms

The Social Service League has made provision for a library and a reading-room at their Madanpura Settlement and also at their Parel Settlement. The daily average number of workers who attend is 41 in one case and 52 in the other. The League also maintains a free travelling library which was circulated at 22 centres during the year 1925. The number of persons who took advantage of this amounted to 2144.

The Young Men's Christian Association have made provision for a reading room with vernacular papers at the Naigaum chawls and Volunteers attend occasionally to read out the news to bands of workmen. The Association have also made arrangements for the issue of a broad sheet in Marathi which will give items of news about the Textile Industry and facts about the relationship of employer and employee. It is hoped by this means to disseminate ideas amongst workers that will promote good feeling between themselves and their employers.

The Textile Labour Union in Ahmedabad provides two reading-rooms and libraries in two different labour localities for the use of their members and books are issued for home reading. No statistics are available with regard to numbers attending. The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal in Bombay have also a reading room for the benefit of their members and the members of the Currency Office Union have made provision for some books and papers. Four Postal Unions in the Bombay Presidency have made provision for both reading-rooms and libraries, two Unions have only reading rooms, one provides literature on Postal affairs only and another subscribes to a few newspapers which are circulated amongst the members. The Shewa Mandli at Rohri, an Association which does welfare work for the benefit of Farmers, Weavers and Villagers in Sind, has reading-rooms and libraries at all its three branches.

2. HEALTH

The Social Service League conducts a charitable dispensary—The Bai Bachubai Charitable Dispensary—for the benefit of women and children of the poor middle and working classes. The average number of persons treated daily amounts to 55 and milk, in addition to medicines, is provided free of charge to very poor patients. The Textile Labour Union in Ahmedabad is the only association of employees which does pioneer work in the direction of providing medical facilities for its members. The Union maintains two dispensaries and a hospital equipped for surgical work. In December 1925 there was accommodation for 20 indoor patients but as the number of applicants for indoor treatment was steadily increasing 10 beds were added during the year 1926 in order to meet a part of the excess demand. The hospital has also a female ward and special arrangements are made for maternity cases. During the year 1925, 170 new patients were admitted for indoor treatment. The average daily attendance which was 8 in 1925 stood at about 25 at the end of the year 1926. Seventy-one major operations were performed and outdoor relief was given to a total number of 9141 patients during the twelve months ending 31st December 1925. The total expenditure under the head ' medical aid ' amounted to Rs. 9688-10-8. The Shewa Mandli at Rohri distributes quinine pills free of charge and one postal union provides medical aid when necessary.

There are in addition to the above several charitable dispensaries, medical relief associations and Maternity and Infant Welfare organisations, which cover working classes at most important towns throughout the Bombay Presidency ; but, as already stated above, it was not considered necessary to include these within the sphere of the present enquiry because they cannot be classed as institutions which were intended to be covered by the present investigation.

3. RECREATION

(*a*) *Facilities for Out-door Sports*

The Social Service League has a Workingmen's Institute at Elphinstone Road to which are attached a playground and an open air gymnasium erected through the help of the Bombay Municipality. The League also conducts an Indian gymnasium for the benefit of the working classes at its Parel Settlement the attendance at which, during the year 1925, amounted to 50 men and boys. This gymnasium organises wrestling matches from time to time. Fresh air excursions are also arranged for at frequent intervals for the benefit of the students of the League's Night Schools.

The Young Men's Christian Association conducts a playground at the Development Department's chawls at Naigaum which is attended by about 50 workers every evening for six nights a week. The Association is also responsible for the supervision of two playgrounds which have been established in Bombay City at the expense of the Municipality. Here it is the endeavour of the Association to see that every one who visits these playgrounds is in some way or other fitted into the scheme of play. The number of boys and youths who are daily touched by these playgrounds is reported to amount to 1500.

The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha arranges for wrestling matches on festival days. The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal and the Bombay Currency Office Association run Cricket Clubs. The Ahmedabad Labour Union organises periodic sports for the students of Labour Schools and to make the competitions attractive it offers suitable prizes for each event. Out of the nine Postal Unions which furnished returns for this enquiry one Union reported that provision had been made for a playground. The activities of the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute have been dealt with under the head "Employers."

(*b*) *Provision for Indoor Games*

The Ahmedabad Labour Union reported that a hall is being provided for indoor games and one or two other unions stated that the Union rooms were utilised for this purpose. The Young Men's Christian Association run a large room in a hut in the grounds of the Development Department's Chawls at Naigaum where efforts are made to interest workers in utilising their spare time in innocent amusements. The daily attendance at the hut for five evenings a week amounts to 20. But apart from these few instances, no information is available to show that any attempts have been made to inculcate in workers a desire for indoor games during the time when they are not actually employed.

(*c*) *Entertainments*

Almost all the Associations which submitted returns in Form B reported that some endeavour had been made for providing entertainment of some kind for the benefit of workers. The Social Service League has organised an Amateur Dramatic Club which stages Marathi plays from time to time at moderate rates of admission. The League also makes frequent arrangements for magic lantern lectures and free musical concerts. Similar work is done by the Young Men's Christian Association at the Naigaum Chawls and the shows organised are attended, on an average, by 100 workers. The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha arranges for frequent processions and pageants containing scenes from mythology which are mounted on floats and marched through the streets in industrial localities. These displays are stated to be very popular among mill hands in Bombay City. The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal provides occasional magic lantern lectures on questions concerning Labour and Co-operation. The Currency Office Association holds Bhajan and Singing Classes from time to time. The Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union reports that a social centre is under the process of equipment for providing entertainments of various kinds. Other Unions have magic lantern lectures sometimes and one Union has a Debating Society.

It will be seen that every endeavour was made to make the enquiry as complete as possible. The results show that outside the organised industries and a few of the larger labour employing establishments practically no effort at conducting welfare work of any description whatever has been undertaken. Even amongst the employers who do undertake this work comparatively very little action has been taken for the development of the proper use of workers' spare time. The greater part of the efforts in this direction, as will have been seen from the preceding

paragraphs, are directed more towards the provision of medical facilities and housing, very important activities in themselves but hardly of the type necessary for the advancement of the moral and physical well-being of the workers whilst they are "off-duty." The most notable exceptions to this are the work done by the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute for the Currimbhoy group of cotton mills in Bombay City; the railways, for superior staff; and some of the cotton mills at Sholapur. Amongst Associations of Social Workers and Workers' own organisations, the work done in the direction by the Social Service League and the Y.M.C.A. in Bombay and by the Textile Labour Union in Ahmedabad will be found to be far more extensive than that done by all the remaining organisations of this kind put together.

Japanese Seafarers

POLICY OF THE SEAMEN'S UNION

The Japanese Seamen's Union has forwarded to the International Labour Office a copy of the constitution and rules of the Union, as adopted by a general meeting of the Union this year. The booklet containing the rules is prefaced by a statement on the general policy of the Union.

The statement recalls that the union was established in 1921 by the leaders of the Japanese seamen, as a result of the conviction, born of the Second Session of the International Labour Conference (Genoa, 1920) that a national union of Japanese maritime workers was absolutely necessary. The Union was now so firmly established and recognised that its President, Mr. Yonekubo, was elected by the Japanese workers as their delegate to the Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the International Labour Conference.

The Union aimed, among other things, at the establishment of free employment exchanges for seamen, the recognition of the right of association, the establishment of a system of collective bargaining, and the promotion of legislation for the protection of seafarers. The Union demanded also the prompt ratification of Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference, the regulation of hours of work, the fixing of minimum wages, the establishment of proper standards of manning of vessels, and the institution of social insurance for seamen.

The membership of the Union in March last was 41,631, the rate of increase being about 500 per month on the average. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 29, 1926.*)

Reviews of Books and Reports

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Patna College Chanakya Society for the year 1925-26

The Chanakya Society which was founded in the year 1909 by the late Captain Charles Russell has just issued its Thirteenth Annual Report. The object of the Society is to foster a special interest amongst its members in the study of economic problems and the practical application of economic principles to every day life. Continuous and systematic enquiry is therefore one of the conditions imposed upon every student who wishes to become a member of the society.

During the period under review, papers on six family budgets, four village surveys, a report on a co-operative society, six reports on mills, factories and workshops, and a paper on the Bihta Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition and cattle shows were read before the society.

The six family budgets appear to have been carefully collected and each of them covers a period of nearly a year. Neither the basis of the selection of the families nor the method of the enquiry followed has been fully explained, although it appears from some of the budgets that the investigators were acquainted with the family and that the selected family was representative of some class or caste.

The four village surveys contain interesting details regarding the social and economic organization of the villages studied.

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World Migration and Labour, by John W. Brown, Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, 1926

This report which was prepared by the International Federation of Trade Unions in accordance with the resolution passed by the International Migration Conference held in Prague in 1924 gives a survey of the general position of migration and deals with the chief aspects of world migration. The report, to which the report of the world migration conference is added as a supplement, contains five parts besides the introduction. These are : (1) Historical and Statistical ; (2) the regulation of migration ; (3) the position of the immigrant in respect of social insurance ; (4) economic aspect of migration and (5) migration and labour.

The first part of the report gives some interesting statistics of world migration and of individual countries. It is pointed out that in the first fourteen years of the 20th century, 15 European countries (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland) sent some 17,000,000 emigrants to five oversea countries, the United States, Canada, Argentine, Brazil and New Zealand, or an average of considerably over a million per year. These were of course the greatest emigrating years the world has ever seen and the present figures are far below them.

As regards the economic aspect of migration, it is pointed out that hitherto migration has served to adjust to some extent the inequalities in economic

opportunities. But owing to changing economic conditions and stricter immigrant laws migration as a remedy for economic evils is reaching its limit of usefulness. And it is therefore necessary, while yet migration is possible, to guide the movement wisely and to place it, if possible, under international control.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 8, DECEMBER 1926. (The Trades Union Congress and Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Unity and a Common Policy, by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 339-341.

(2) *Trade Unionism under Attack : I.-Tory Party's Plan of Campaign, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress).* pp. 342-345.

(3) *The Defence of Trade Union Rights, by Sir Henry Slesser, K.C., M.P.*—Section three of the Trade Disputes Act ; section four of the Trade Disputes Act ; section four of the Trade Union Act, 1871 ; Trade Union Act, 1913. pp. 346-348.

(4) *America To-day, by George Hicks (Chairman of the Trades Union Congress General Council).*—Americans like big boys ; the death of debs ; wages and working conditions ; food ; evil newspapers ; American trade unionism ; waring prosperity ; prohibition ; comradeship. pp. 349-351.

(5) *Science and Ceres, by C. Wye Kendall, F.R.G.S.* pp. 352-354.

(6) *Memories and Reflections, by "Propagandist."* pp 355-357.

(7) *In the "Eight-fifteen": On the Simple Art of keeping Politics out of Industry, by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 358-359.

(8) *"Scated" Wages, by H. W. Lee.* pp. 367 & 368.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 95, NOVEMBER 1926. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Some South African and Indian Industrial Problems, by E. Halford Ross.* pp. 360-362.

(2) *Dental Service in Industry, by T. P. Wolston Watt., L.D.S. (Cadbury Brothers, Ltd.).* pp. 363-369.

(3) *Miners' Welfare : A colliery joint association.*—clubs ; recreation : first aid and bath room. pp. 369-372.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 96, DECEMBER 1926 (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Some Criticisms of Welfare Work, by C. U. Kerr (Head of the Women's Department of the Industrial Welfare Society).* pp. 391-396.

(2) *Medicine and Industry, by Leonard P. Lockhart, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab), Medical Officer.* pp. 396-398.

(3) *Industrial Welfare in Practice, by Warre Bradley, F.C.I.S.*—Long service grant ; the works' journal ; grant to widows and employees. pp. 398-403.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 12. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles : (1) *Miners' Nystagmus : Its Symptoms, Causes, and Effect on Working Capacity, by Prof. Dr. J. Ohm. (Ocalist at Bottrop, Westphalia).*—Introduction ; symptoms—nystagmus, lid psasm, tremor of rest of body ; diagnosis ; effect on working capacity ; causes—external causes, internal causes ; prophylaxis ; theory. pp. 499-511.

(2) *A New Type of Hose Mask for Protection Against Metallurgic Dusts and Fumes, by Lawrence G. Dunlap, S.B., M.D., F.A.C.S.* pp. 513-516.

(3) *Studies in the Control and Treatment of "Nickel Rash," by Frederick M. R. Bulmer (Division of Industrial Hygiene, Ontario Department of Health, Toronto, Canada) and E. A. Mackenzie (Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada).*—Discussion ; treatment ; conclusions. pp. 517-527.

(4) *The Colorimetric Determination of Minute Amounts of Nickel. Potassium Di-Thio-Oxalate as a sensitive Reagent, by Lawrence T. Fairhall, A.M., Ph.D. (From the Department of Physiology, Harvard School of Public Health).*—The method of analysis—drying and carbonizing, ashing, removal of heavy metals, estimation of nickel—(*a*) in the absence of cobalt, (*b*) in the presence

of cobalt, preparation of potassium di-thio-oxalate; discussion of the method; conclusions. pp. 528-533.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 11, NOVEMBER 1926. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Factories and Workshops in Great Britain in 1925.* pp. 1079-1081.

(2) *Canadian Council on Child Welfare.*—Section on child labour, 1925-26; section on education and recreation; economic aspects of child welfare. pp. 1081-1884.

(3) *American Federation of Labour: Summary of the Proceedings of the Forty-sixth Annual Convention.*—Finances and membership; report of committee on organization; report of committee on labels; report of committee on legislation; raise per capita tax on directly affiliated unions; shorter work week approved; supports executive councils' report; report of committee on boycotts; report of committee on education; opposed to lifting of immigration restrictions, company unions; against injunctions in labour disputes; opposed to individual contracts; favour compensation laws; high wages American policy; jurisdictional disputes; resolutions submitted; still opposed to recognition of Soviet Russia; internal relations; assistance for textile workers; fraternal messages; other addresses; visit of British Industrial Mission; memorial to deceased members; invitation withdrawn; election of officers. pp. 1086-1097.

(4) *Visit to Canada of the Deputy Director of the International Labour Office.*—Ottawa men's Canadian club; Ottawa women's Canadian club; Montreal branch Canadian manufacturers' association; McGill University Canadian club; women's canadian club of Hamilton; Toronto Canadian club. pp. 1113-1118.

(5) *Third International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Geneva, October 18-23, 1926.*—Methods of conducting family budget enquiries; methods of statistics of collective agreements; methods of compiling statistics of industrial disputes; classification of industries. pp. 1118-1121.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIII, NO. 2. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Welfare Work in the British Coal Industry.*—Management and financial position of the fund; district work; "our penny-a-ton hall"; health work in the districts; work of the general fund. pp. 1-8.

(2) *Organization and Membership of American Trade-Unions, 1926.*—Building trades; metals and machinery; transportation; paper and printing—paper, printing; textiles and clothing—textiles, boots and shoes, garment trades, other clothing trades; food, liquor and tobacco; mining, oil, and lumber; glass and clay; woodworking; public service and amusements; other "white collar" unions; miscellaneous, industrial workers of the world; aggregate membership. pp. 8-23.

(3) *Co-operative Workshops in the United States.*—General characteristics of workers' productive societies; year and cause of establishment of society; membership; employment and wage policies; capitalization and business; amount and division of profits; marketing problems; business methods and management. pp. 23-30.

(4) *A Study of Villagers in the United States.*—Increase in village population; kind of people living in agricultural villages; gainful occupation of villagers; village populations compared with city and open-country populations; professional functions of villagers. pp. 31-34.

(5) *Industrial Accident Prevention Conference, Washington, D.C.*—Problem of national accident statistics; what is being done in the collection of accident statistics; what can be done to develop national accident prevention statistics; other phases of the accident prevention problem; resolutions passed by the conference. pp. 41-46.

(6) *Cancer Statistics in various Trades and Professions.*—Mortality rates in different occupations; factors in cancer causation; cancer sites in relation to occupation; summary. pp. 55-58.

(7) *Recent Compensation Reports.*—Georgia; Illinois; Massachusetts. pp. 61-65.

(8) *Care of the Sick under the German Salaried Employees' Insurance System, 1913-1925.* pp. 65-68.

(9) *Statistics of Swedish Sick Funds, 1922 to 1924.* pp. 69 & 70.

(10) *Wage Payment Legislation.*—Interference with freedom of contract; employment on public works; reason for wage payment legislation. pp. 84-87.

(11) *Labour Legislation of Bolivia.*—Worker's compulsory Savings Law; law regulating working conditions of commercial and industrial employees. pp. 88-90.

(12) *New Labor Law of Guatemala.*—Employment of women and children; wages and hours; contracts of employment; labor disputes and their settlement. pp. 90 & 91.

(13) *Strikes and Lockouts in Great Britain in 1925.*—Cause of disputes; results of disputes; methods of settlements; comparative figures for recent years. pp. 104-107.

(14) *Hours and Earnings in Motor-Vehicle Industry, 1922 & 1925.*—Regular hours of operation; overtime work. pp. 108-115.

(15) *Earnings and Hours in English Textile Industries.*—Average weekly earnings; normal weekly hours of labor; hours actually worked and average hourly earnings; extent of short time. pp. 120-123.

(16) *Changes in Cost of Living in the United States.* pp. 197-210.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIV, NO. 6. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles: (1) *The Constitutionality of Labour Legislation in the United States of America: II by William Gorham Rice, Jr. (Law School, Univertsiy of Wisconsin, U. S. A.)*—III The conflict between state and individual (*cont.*), (*c*) wages, (*d*) liability for workmen's incapacitation, (*e*) restrictions on termination of employment (*f*) regulation of inudstrial struggle and its settlement—(1) the situation apart from statute, (2) statutory regulation of industrial conflict, (3) compulsory arbitration; IV future development. pp. 779-802.

(2) *Annual Holidays for Workers and Collective Agreements.*—Scope of regulations in collective agreements—conditions entitling to holidays, length of the holiday, continuity of the holiday, date of the holiday, payment of workers on holiday, prohibition of paid work during holidays, loss of right to holidays; conclusion. pp. 803-832.

(3) *The Conciliation of Arbitration of Industrial Disputes:*—II. *The Machinery of Conciliation and Arbitration: an Analysis.*—Types of disputes—negotiations in unorganised trades, justifiable disputes, public utilities, disputes of great economic or social importance; machinery for dealing with disputes in general—origin, stage of intervention, sphere of operation, constitution, form of procedure; basic principles, compulsion and enforcement—basic principles, compulsion, enforcement. pp. 833-860.

(4) *The New Japanese Act on Health Insurance.*—Scope; finance; benefits—sickness benefit, maternity benefit; funeral benefit, institutions. pp. 861-871.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Housing (Rural Workers) Act in Great Britain

The Housing (Rural Workers) Act received the Royal Assent on the 15th December.

The Act empowers, and in certain circumstances requires, local authorities to submit to the Minister of Health (in Scotland, to the Scottish Board of Health) schemes with respect to the reconstruction or improvement of existing houses or buildings within their areas, for the purpose of providing dwellings for agricultural workers and for persons of similar economic condition; and to give financial assistance in respect of works done under such schemes. The reconstruction or improvement may consist of structural alteration, repair, addition, provision of water supply, drainage or sanitary conveniences, or the like; but shall not in any case include works of ordinary repair or upkeep, except so far as they are incidental to or connected with other works. In order to secure that the full benefit of the grant may accrue to the occupier of the dwelling, and that the occupier is of the class described, special conditions are to attach to the dwelling for a period of twenty years.

The Act also authorises the Government to contribute towards any expenses incurred by a local authority in making grants under schemes approved by the Minister of Health (or by the Scottish Board of Health, as the case may be). The Exchequer contributions are to be by way of annual payments for a period of twenty years, and are to be equal to one-half of the estimated average annual charges payable by the local authority.

The amount of the charge on the Exchequer will depend on the amount of the grants which local authorities find it necessary to give; but, on the assumption that the average amount of grants given were £75, and that the number of dwellings in respect of which grants is given were 20,000, the maximum charge on the Exchequer, reckoning interest at 5 per cent. would be approximately £60,000 a year for twenty years. The maximum charge on the local rates would, under the scheme, be of the same amount.

(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, December 1926.)

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in wages reported to have come into operation during November, and, in the case of coal-miners, in the early part of December, resulted in an increase of about £119,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 450,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of nearly £44,000 in those of about 230,000 workpeople.

The largest groups of workpeople included in these figures are coal-miners, steel smelters and millmen, and boot and shoe operatives. In the case of coal-miners increases have been reported in the percentage additions to basis rates in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Cannock Chase and North Staffordshire, and reductions in Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and the Radstock area. Workpeople employed in steel-smelting shops and rolling mills in various districts in England and Scotland, with the exception of lower-paid men, had their wages increased, and workpeople employed in boot and shoe manufacture also received increases.

During the eleven completed months of 1926 the changes reported to the Department (including the effect of certain coal-mining changes occurring in December) have resulted in net increases amounting to over £111,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 350,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of nearly £89,000 in those of 813,000 workpeople. In the first eleven months of 1925 there were net increases of £79,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 850,000 workpeople and net reductions of £157,000 in those of a similar number of workpeople. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, December 1926.*)

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At 1st December the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately the same as a month earlier and 79 per cent. above that of July 1914. The corresponding figure for 1st December 1925, was 77 per cent. For food alone, the average percentage increase at 1st December 1926 was also about the same as a month earlier, *viz.*, 69 per cent. above the pre-war level, but was lower than a year earlier, when the percentage increase was 74. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, December 1926.*)

* * * * * *

At the beginning of November about 800,000 workpeople in the coal-mining industry continued to be involved in the stoppage of work which began on 1st May. By 27th November this number had been reduced to about 650,000, and by the end of the following week the majority of the miners in most districts had resumed work, the date of resumption varying in different cases. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in the dispute was about 16 million in November,

and the total number of days lost during the entire period of stoppage was about 143 million.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as in progress in November was 16. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 1000 and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in November was about 7000 working days. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, December 1926*)

A joint committee representing the Trades Union Congress, the Labour Party and the Parliamentary Labour Party has just issued a Report on Unemployment, which contains proposals for the development of national resources and economic possibilities at home and abroad (with special emphasis on oversea development, and a statement concerning Labour policy on emigration, and the co-ordination of Labour standards internationally): the raising of the school-leaving age to 16, and the provision of pensions for elderly workers, which would diminish labour supplies at both ends: taxation of land and mineral values: the creation of a State Fund to accelerate trade development schemes in lean years (£10,000,000 per year to be allocated to it): paid holidays: the payment of unemployment benefit from State instead of local funds: and the training of the unemployed.

All the above are recognised, however, to be merely palliatives; the Committee declares that "there is no satisfactory solution of the problem of unemployment except upon Socialist lines." (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, December 2, 1926.*)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Municipality of Berlin has made a grant of 10,000 marks for the relief of unemployed intellectual workers.

Half of this sum has been handed over to the city employment exchange, which has a special department for intellectual workers, and is endeavouring to find employment for chemists, medical men, lawyers, writers, teachers, etc. The grant is also being used for the purpose of making loans, without interest, to enable intellectual workers to procure materials for their work. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, December 13, 1926.*)

* * * * * *

UNITED STATES

The New Jersey State Supreme Court recently awarded as workmen's compensation the sum of $1700 to a worker who was shot in a hold-up at Newark. The court ruled that "in these times" a hold-up can be "reasonably anticipated as connected with employment." (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, November 1926.*)

OTHER COUNTRIES

At the Thirty-second Annual Convention of elementary school teachers from Nipissing and South Temiskaming district in Ontario a resolution was passed in favour of a proposal to allow teachers the privilege of "accumulated sick allowance." Under this arrangement teachers who have not been absent from school owing to sickness and have not taken advantage of the annual time allowance for sickness, would be permitted, in case of serious illness to draw upon their accumulated allowance to the extent of 20 per cent. of their unused sickness allowance each year. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, November 1926.*)

Labour unions in New Zealand, in submitting to the Arbitration Court their claims for new wage awards, are making a feature of a demand for a 40-hour or five-day week, with Saturday and Sunday free. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, November 1926.*)

By letter of 5th November 1926 the Japanese Government Delegation to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office informed the Office that, at a Cabinet meeting held on 2nd November 1926, it was decided to adopt the *Draft Convention* and *Recommendation concerning workmen's compensation for occupational diseases* and the *Draft Convention* and *Recommendation concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents*, adopted by the Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 1925). (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, November 29, 1926.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN DECEMBER 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1926	1926		
1. The Whittle Mill No. 3, Broach.	262	...	23 Nov.	6 Dec.	Demand for higher rates of wages.	The Strike ended in favour of the employees.
2. The Indian Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Railwaypura, Kankaria, Ahmedabad.	200	250	23 Dec.	24 Dec.	Demand for the same rates of wages as are paid in other Mills.	The Strike ended in favour of the employers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING DECEMBER 1926

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Nov 1926	Machinery in motion — Dec 1926	Other causes — Jan to Nov 1926	Other causes — Dec 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Nov 1926	Fatal — Dec 1926	Serious — Jan to Nov 1926	Serious — Dec 1926	Minor — Jan to Nov 1926	Minor — Dec 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Jan to Nov 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Dec 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	484	42	270(b)	25(b)	9	2	125	7	622	60	756	69
Woollen Mills ..	7	1	3	1	..	..		1	10	1	10	2
Others ..	7	..	3	..	..	.	2	..	8	.	10	..
Total ..	498	43	276	26	9	2	127	8	640	61	776	71
II Workshops—												
Engineering ..	29	3	321	35	.		15	1	335	37	350	38
Railway ..	152	8	1,619 c	132(a)	3	1	56	5	1,713	137	1,772	143
Mint ..	1	..	3	..	..	.	2	..	2	.	4	.
Others ..	17	3	58	2	1	..	4	2	70	3	5	5
Total ..	199	14	2,001	169	4	1	77	8	2,120	177	2,201	186
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works .	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	4	..
Flour Mills ..	2	..	3	..	..		2	..	3	.	5	.
Printing Presses..	8	..	7	..	..	..	1	.	14		15	.
Others ..	11	..	40	1(b)	1	..	6	2	44	1	51	3
Total ..	22	..	53	1	2	..	9	2	64	1	75	3
otal, All Factories ..	719	57	2,380	196	15	3	213	18	2,824	239	3,052	260

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion — Jan to Nov 1926	Machinery in motion — Dec 1926	Other causes — Jan to Nov 1926	Other causes — Dec 1926	Nature of injury: Fatal — Jan to Nov 1926	Fatal — Dec 1926	Serious — Jan to Nov 1926	Serious — Dec 1926	Minor — Jan to Nov 1926	Minor — Dec 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Jan to Nov 1926	Total No. of persons injured — Dec 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	247	15	117	3	3	..	35	..	326	18	364	18
Total ..	247	15	117	3	3	..	35	..	326	18	364	18
II Miscellaneous												
Match Factory ..	1	..	5	..	3	..	.	.	3	..	6	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	.	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	.	..	.	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	..	1	1	.	1	.	..	1	..	1	1
Total ..	2	..	6	1	3	1	..	..	5	..	8	1
Total, All Factories ..	249	15	123	4	6	1	35	..	331	18	372	19

Explanations :—1. The progressive totals are subject to alteration.
2. "Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
(*a*) 4 Persons affected by one accident.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.
(*c*) 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING DECEMBER 1926—*contd.*

3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..	5	3	29	.	1	..	1	..	32	3	34	3
Engineering ..	3	..	16	..	..	..	1	..	18	..	19	..
Total ..	8	3	45	..	1	..	2	.	50	3	53	3
II Miscellaneous— ..	4	..	11	2	.	.	1	..	14	2	15	2
Total ..	4	..	11	2	..	..	1	..	14	2	15	2
Total, All Factories ..	12	3	56	2	1	..	3	..	64	5	68	5

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926	Jan to Nov 1926	Dec 1926
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	104	8	84	7(c)	4	..	33	4	151	12	188	16
Others ..	10	..	6	3		..	5	..	11	3	16	3
Total ..	114	8	90	10	4	..	38	4	162	15	204	19
II Workshops—												
Railway ..	42	4	201	19	..	.	20	4	223	19	243	23
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	6	1	7	2	..	..	5	2	8	1	13	3
Others ..	12	1	28	2	1	..	7	1	32	2	40	3
Total ..	60	6	236	23	1	..	32	7	263	22	296	29
III Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories .	6	1	15(a)	3	4	..	8	1	12	3	24	4
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	17	2	18(b)	1	6	..	8	1	23	2	37	3
Total ..	23	3	33	4	10	.	16	2	35	5	61	7
Total, All Factories ..	197	17	359	37	15	..	86	13	460	42	561	55

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(*a*) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(*b*) 3 persons affected by one accident.
(*c*) 2 persons affected by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of November			8 months ended November		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	„ ..	6,054	939	6,535	43,882	39,978	55,800
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	„ ..	19,635	6,841	17,367	143,328	127,302	148,646
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	„ ..	12,821	4,876	12,249	105,379	90,661	114,543
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	„ ..	1,189	747	1,562	10,027	8,322	13,540
Above 40 ..	„ ..	537	261	855	3,466	3,029	6,879
Waste, etc. ..	„ ..	9	9	82	86	297	836
	Total .	40,245	13,673	38,650	306,168	269,589	340,244

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	„ ..	5,338	*	5,684	38,686	34,047	49,444
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	„ ..	13,302		11,928	97,891	73,484	101,270
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	„ ..	8,002		7,241	65,177	50,729	70,064
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	„ ..	699		674	5,581	3,643	6,186
Above 40 ..	„ ..	336		305	2,008	1,499	2,655
Waste, etc. ..	„ ..	2		74	22	227	760
	Total ..	27,679		25,906	209,365	163,629	230,379

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	„ ..	216	349	227	1,611	1,915	1,681
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	„ ..	3,264	3,818	2,661	24,652	30,122	25,795
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	„ ..	3,724	3,806	3,635	30,140	30,885	32,474
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	„ ..	372	608	754	3,304	3,389	5,849
Above 40 ..	„ ..	154	195	411	1,100	1,050	3,223
Waste, etc. ..	„ ..		..	..	..	..	.
	Total ..	7,730	8,776	7,688	60,807	67,361	69,022

* No production due to strike

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of November			8 months ended November		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,769	668	2,565	10,361	9,138	13,484
Chudders „ ..	1,971	1,013	1,491	11,206	12 271	12.765
Dhotis „ ..	7,386	5,305	6,533	47,576	51,809	59,975
Drills and jeans „ ..	867	281	1,058	7,541	6,163	7,932
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	44	27	32	481	364	227
Printers „ ..	465	258	120	2,643	1,868	1,238
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	8,655	5,713	6,956	64,250	63,086	75,581
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	1,130	732	1,335	8,188	8,173	10,507
Tent cloth „ ..	195	73	185	1,396	1,068	740
Other sorts „ ..	635	371	449	4,131	3,784	3,453
Total „ ..	23,117	14,441	20,724	157,773	157,724	185,902
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	10,065	5,215	10,492	69,421	63,382	77,509
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	129	96	136	1,248	1,683	1,852
Hosiery „ ..	25	13	16	119	146	167
Miscellaneous „ ..	220	79	229	1,222	1,272	1,886
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	19	35	135	63	364	1,258
Grand Total „ ..	33,575	19,879	31,732	229,846	224,571	268,574

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	1,156	248	2,230	7,112	6,722	11,965
Chudders „ ..	1,283	353	1,015	7,103	8,054	8,952
Dhotis „ ..	1,747	697	1,905	14,119	15,021	18,538
Drills and jeans „ ..	750	190	958	6,730	5,190	7,260
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	17	1	9	388	199	35
Printers „ ..	1	..	..	25	19	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	5,941	3,312	5,455	45,840	45,208	58,535
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	862	302	960	6,599	5,714	7,502
Tent cloth „ ..	40	16	168	533	625	629
Other sorts „ ..	204	72	229	1,758	1,493	1,907
Total „ ..	12,001	5,191	12,929	90,207	88,245	115,323
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	7,432	2,608	7,773	54,244	44,876	55,466
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	119	84	125	1,197	1,611	1,783
Hosiery „ ..	15	7	6	60	49	41
Miscellaneous „ ..	187	29	180	1,010	1,018	1,531
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	15	11	117	45	304	851
Grand Total „ ..	19,769	7,930	21,130	146,763	136,103	174,995

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of November			8 months ended November		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	412	127	123	2,338	704	386
Chudders „ ..	531	439	402	3,215	3,229	2,911
Dhotis „ ..	4,529	3,574	3,772	26,240	28,763	33,857
Drills and jeans „ ..	32	6	22	203	353	201
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	25	26	22	83	150	187
Printers „ ..	367	196	56	1,801	1,219	636
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	2,107	1,859	1,065	14,819	14,252	12,746
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings „ ..	254	377	313	1,451	2,240	2,343
Tent cloth „ ..	142	49	..	792	383	10
Other sorts „ ..	258	193	102	1,534	1,577	825
Total „ ..	8,657	6,846	5,877	52,476	52,870	54,102
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	1,470	1,605	1,655	8,355	11,393	13,984
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	1	2	2	6	8	11
Hosiery „ ..	11	6	11	59	95	127
Miscellaneous „ ..	19	45	40	168	211	325
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	3	24	16	6	51	395
Grand Total „ ..	10,161	8,528	7,601	61,070	64,628	68,944

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Dec. 1925	Nov. 1926	Dec. 1926	July 1914	Dec. 1925	Nov.1926	Dec. 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 6 10	6 6 10	100	137	137	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	9 5 6	..	..	100	167	..	..
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	72 8 0	77 8 0	77 8 0	100	161	172	172
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	..	40 0 0	62 8 0	57 8 0	52 0 0	100	156	144	130
Jowari	Cawnpore ..	Maund	3 2 6	3 14 8	4 3 9(1)	4 5 5(1)	100	124	134	137
Barley		..	3 4 6	4 12 2	4 3 9	4 3 9	100	145	129	129
Bajri	Ghati ..	..	3 4 6	4 15 7	4 13 11	4 15 7	100	152	148	152
Index No.—Cereals ..			..	..	..	..	100	149	144	143
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	5 3 0	5 8 1	5 6 4	100	123	130	127
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	..	5 10 5	6 12 4	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	120	135	135
Index No.—Pulses ..			..	..	..	..	100	122	133	131
Index No.—Food grains ..			..	..	..	..	100	143	141	140
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	..	10 3 0	16 0 0	18 10 0	18 12 0	100	157	183	184
Raw (Gul) ..	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	10 14 2	9 8 5	10 1 1	100	138	121	128
Index No.—Sugar ..			..	..	..	..	100	148	152	156
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	10 3 3	7 5 7	7 5 7	100	183	132	132
Ghee	Deshi ..	..	45 11 5	80 0 0	77 2 3	74 4 7	100	175	169	165
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	..	1 7 6	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	145	136	136
Index No.—Other food ..			..	..	..	..	100	168	146	144
Index No.—All Food ..			..	..	..	..	100	149	144	143
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	11 7 0	10 10 0	10 6 0	100	128	119	116
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	..	8 0 0	11 2 0	..	..	100	139	..	..
Poppy seed		..	10 14 0	13 10 0	15 8 0	16 8 0	100	125	143	152
Gingelly seed	White ..	..	11 4 0	13 14 0	..	14 12 0	100	123	..	131
Index No.—Oilseeds ..			..	..	..	..	100	129	131	133

Textile—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	..	253 0 0	238 0 0	100	..	..	..
Oomra	Do.	,,	222 0 0	358 0 0	..	..	100	161	114	107
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	,,	230 0 0	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	,,	205 0 0	336 0 0	..	221 0 0	100	164	..	108
Bengal	Do.	,,	198 0 0	309 0 0	240 0 0	221 0 0	100	152	121	112
Index No —Cotton, raw			.	.	.	..	100	159	118	109
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 4 0	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	157	122	122
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	11 0 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	100	185	147	147
White mulls	6,000	,,	4 3 0	9 12 0	8 14 0	8 14 0	100	233	212	212
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	,,	10 6 0	22 10 0	17 14 0	17 4 0	100	218	172	166
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 6	0 14 0	0 14 0	100	184	147	147
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	,,	0 9 6	1 0 0	0 13 3	0 13 6	100	168	139	142
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			..	..	..	.	100	191	157	156
Index No.—Textile—Cotton			.	..	..	..	100	180	147	140
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 15 10	5 14 7	6 0 3	100	136	115	117
Do.	Mathow Lari	,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 5 4	4 5 4	100	160	147	147
Index No.—Other Textiles		...	.	..	..	.	100	148	131	132
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 13 1	1 12 10	1 12 7	100	157	156	155
Do. Buffalo	Do.	,,	1 1 3	0 13 0	0 13 9	1 0 6	100	75	80	96
Skins, Goat	Do	,,	1 4 0	2 10 9	2 7 0	2 7 9	100	214	195	199
Index No.—Hides and Skins			..	..	..	.	100	149	144	150
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 0 0	58 8 0	57 8 0	100	99	97	95
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	11 0 0	10 0 0	10 2 0	100	142	129	131
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	14 8 0	14 10 0	14 6 0	100	161	163	160
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	15 0 0	17 0 0	22 0 0	100	171	194	251
Index No.—Metals			..	..	..	..	100	150	150	161
ther raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	21 14 0	21 12 0	21 0 0	100	148	147	142
Do.	Imported	,,	19 11 6	22 9 6	27 6 2	24 3 11	100	115	139	123
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 6	7 10 6	100	170	169	175
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	9 12 6	100	185	186	191
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles			..	..	..	..	100	155	161	158
Index No.—Food			..	..	..	..	100	149	144	143
Index No.—Non-food			..	..	..	..	100	157	147	147
General Index No.			..	..	..	..	100	154	146	146

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Dec 1925	Nov 1926	Dec 1926	July 1914	Dec 1925	Nov 1926	Dec 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs a. p. (1)	Rs a. p. (2)	Rs a. p. (3)				
Cereals—										
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	59 4 0	59 4 0	59 4 0	100	152	152	152
Wheat, white	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 30 % red.	,,	31 8 0	51 12 0	42 8 0	39 8 0	100	164	135	125
,, red	5 % barley, 3 % dirt, 92 % red.	,,	31 4 0	50 12 0	41 12 0	39 10 0	100	162	134	127
,, white	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	53 4 0	43 14 0	40 12 0	100	164	135	125
,, red	2 % barley, 1½ % dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	52 4 0	42 7 0	40 14 0	100	162	132	127
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	42 8 0	36 4 0	34 8 0	100	167	142	135
Barley	3 % dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	35 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	132	136	136
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	158	138	132
Pulses—										
Gram	1 % dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	42 0 0	39 0 0(2)	40 0 0(2)	100	142	132	136
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white ..	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 0 0	17 6 0	17 8 0	100	164	190	192
,, ..	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6	13 14 0	16 0 0	15 14 0	100	171	198	196
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	168	194	194
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	1 10 3	100	79	78	77
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 12 0	4 8 0	3 9 0	100	139	166	132
Rapeseed, bold	3 % admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0	71 0 0			100	139		..
Gingelly	Black 9 % admixture ..	,,	62 0 0	83 0 0	84 0 0	92 0 0	100	134	135	148
Index No.—Oilseeds ..							100	137	151	140
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	71 4 0	56 0 0	69 0 0	100	186	146	180

Textiles—Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind		Maund	20 4 0	42 12 0	25 0 0	24 2 0	100	211	123	119
(*b*) Cotton manufactures											
Drills	Pepperill	..	Piece.	10 3 6	18 12 0	15 4 0	14 4 0	100	183	149	139
Shirtings	Liepmann's	..	,,	10 2 0	21 8 0	19 0 0	18 0 0	100	212	188	178
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..					..		..	100	198	169	159
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..	...			..			..	100	202	153	145
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	..	Maund.	28 0 0	40 0 0	37 0 0	33 0 0	100	143	132	118
Hides—											
Hides, dry	Sind	..	Maund.	21 4 0	15 0 0	13 12 0	14 8 0	100	71	65	68
,, ,, ...	Punjab	..	,,	21 4 0	15 0 0	13 12 0	14 8 0	100	71	65	68
Index No—Hides .	..					..	..	100	71	65	68
Metals—											
Copper Braziers .. .			Cwt.	60 8 0	63 0 0	59 0 0	59 0 0	100	104	98	98
Steel Bars .. .			,,	3 14 0	6 5 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	100	163	161	161
,, Plates .. .			,,	4 6 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	100	160	160	154
Index No.—Metals .	..				..	..		100	142	140	138
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	1st class Bengal	.	Ton.	16 0 0	21 8 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	134	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand	..	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
,, ...	Elephant ,,	.	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	165	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles					..	..		100	161	165	165
Index No.—Food ..				..	..	..	..	100	151	142	139
Index No.—Non-food ..				..		..		100	150	139	137
General Index No. ..				..		..		100	150	140	138

*Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotatoin for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1923														
December ..	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
1924														
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a)164	(a)158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a)100 (f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	..	(d) 117	119	103	..	105(m)
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	206
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 "	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 "	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 "	157	170	144	(a)149	(l) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173(m)
1925 June	154	172	146	155	..	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
" July	157	173	146	.	.	598	509	..	169	133	..	..
" August	152	173	149	..	163	610	517	..	167	132	..	..
" September	151	174	149	155	..	624	525	248	167	132	401	..
" October	153	176	149	..	..	643	533	..	165	132	..	..
" November	153	176	152	..	..	643	534	.	165	131	..	.
" December	155	177	154	156	.	640	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155	..	..	665	527	..	167	131	..	..
" February	154	173	154	..	162	661	526	..	165	131	..	..
" March	155	172	154	156	..	654	521	225	.	131	451	..
" April	153	168	153	..	..	642	529	..	..	131	..	..
" May	153	167	152	..	..	652	558	.	160	132	..	..
" June	155	168	150	161	..	650	579	218	162	131	485	175
" July	157	170	150	..	..	649	637	..	162	130	.	.
" August	155	170	150	..	163	652	681	..	161	130	..	
" September	155	172	149	..	..	657	684	..	161	130	539	..
" October	155	174	148	..	..	672	705	218	161	131	..	..
" November	154	179	150	..	..	..	730	.		.	..	..
" December	156	179	-	..	..	..	..	.			..	..
1927 January	156	.	.	.	..	..	..	.			..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922 (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	100 (f)	100	100
1914 ,,	100	96	..	..	106	(e) 100	..	102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,,		97	..	..	147	102	..	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,,		117	..	.	138	124	..	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,,		149	..	..	153	169	..	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,,	236	196	..	..	178	207	.	339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,,	222	236	..	..	189	226	.	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,,	216	259	152	.	228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,,	199	200	150	..	175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,,	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,,	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,,	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
,, December	176	214	157	179	173	156	170	507	160	278	163	161	157
1925 January	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
,, February	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
,, March	171	204	160	179	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
,, April	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
,, May	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June	160	206	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
,, December	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
,, August	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
,, September	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
,, October	147	174	171	157	.	129	152	751	143	..	142	151	150
,, November	146	..	..	.	.	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..
,, December	146	..	..	..	.	..	..	.	.	..	..	..	..

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.
†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 ,,	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 ,,	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 ,,	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 ,,	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,,	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	.	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,,	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	.	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,,	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,,	166	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e) 184	157
1923 ,,	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	371	(f) 496	105	968	126	218	160	(e) 188	166
1924 ,,	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	366	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e) 200	170
1925 May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	.	265	169	.	165
,, June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
,, July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,167	152	260	169	.	167
,, August	147	168	146	119	156	152		423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129		228	166	..	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(g) 175	216	162	..	167
,, February	150	169	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	.	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	.
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049		198	158	..	
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	654	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	151	1,052	..	194	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	..	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	149		587	660	193	1,116	.	196	156	..	157
,, September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
,, October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091		191	157	..	160
,, November	152	169	148	..	..	146	.	628	.	.		..	..	158	..	.
,, December	154	169	..	..	..	149	.	.	..				.	.	..	..
1927 January	155	..	..	..	..	..	..							.	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100 (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100)

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1926

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Nov. 1926	Karachi Nov. 1926	Ahmedabad Nov. 1926	Sholapur Nov. 1926	Poona Nov. 1926	Bombay Dec. 1926	Karachi Dec. 1926	Ahmedabad Dec. 1926	Sholapur Dec. 1926	Poona Dec. 1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund ..	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 14 3 *144*	8 6 9 *159*	8 7 10 *147*	7 8 9 *135*	8 0 0 *120*	8 14 3 *144*	8 13 10 *168*	7 11 1 *133*
Wheat	,, ..	7 5 8 *131*	6 0 7 *143*	7 4 4 *154*	7 1 0 *137*	7 8 6 *140*	7 5 8 *131*	6 2 6 *146*	6 15 4 *148*	7 6 0 *143*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	,, ..	5 9 10 *129*	4 8 1 *124*	5 5 4 *140*	3 11 8 *130*	5 5 4 *155*	5 12 6 *133*	4 11 4 *130*	5 2 7 *136*	4 4 2 *148*	5 5 4 *155*
Bajri	,, ..	6 1 5 *141*	5 3 3 *124*	6 0 7 *128*	5 1 5 *145*	6 3 0 *151*	5 14 10 *137*	5 4 7 *126*	5 8 3 *117*	4 15 2 *141*	5 8 5 *135*
Index No.—Cereals		*134*	*128*	*142*	*143*	*148*	*134*	*131*	*136*	*150*	*143*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund ..	6 12 4 *157*	5 7 6 *144*	5 11 5 *143*	5 7 4 *127*	5 14 1 *121*	6 13 9 *159*	5 8 3 *145*	5 11 5 *143*	5 7 4 *127*	5 7 1 *112*
Turdal	,, ..	8 1 5 *138*	8 10 5 *130*	10 0 0 *162*	7 15 4 *136*	8 14 3 *135*	8 6 8 *144*	8 12 3 *131*	10 0 0 *162*	8 11 2 *149*	10 2 6 *154*
Index No.—Pulses		*148*	*137*	*153*	*132*	*128*	*152*	*138*	*153*	*138*	*133*

Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	13 11 1 *180*	11 13 8 *163*	12 12 10 *160*	12 8 9 *125*	12 15 3 *138*	14 4 7 *187*	13 1 0 *180*	13 14 7 *174*	14 8 9 *145*	15 5 0 *164*
Jagri (gul)	,, ..	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	9 14 6 *141*	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 7 4 *149*
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 4 *197*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 4 *197*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*
Salt	Maund ..	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 14 4 *154*	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*
Beef .. .	Seer ..	0 8 9 *169*	0 9 0 *180*	0 5 6 *92*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 6 2 *103*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*
Mutton ..	,, ..	0 11 3 *169*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 12 2 *182*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 *191*	8 14 3 *200*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	10 0 0 *225*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*
Ghee	,, ..	95 3 10 *188*	72 11 8 *170*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	94 0 9 *185*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*
Potatoes	,, ..	7 2 3 *159*	7 8 6 *139*	8 0 0 *210*	6 10 8 *167*	5 8 3 *164*	8 5 4 *186*	8 3 3 *151*	10 0 0 *263*	9 6 7 *235*	5 11 5 *170*
Onions	,, ..	7 2 3 *460*	4 2 6 *229*	3 10 2 *182*	4 7 1 *178*	3 3 10 *162*	7 2 3 *460*	4 4 3 *135*	5 0 0 *250*	6 10 8 *267*	4 3 4 *210*
Cocoanut oil	,, ..	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*
Index No.—Other articles of food		*195*	*172*	*167*	*157*	*151*	*198*	*177*	*180*	*173*	*159*
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)		*175*	*158*	*159*	*151*	*148*	*177*	*162*	*166*	*164*	*152*

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, FEBRUARY, 1927 [No. 6

The Month in Brief

BOMBAY TRADE UNIONS REGULATIONS

We publish in this issue the draft regulations for the Bombay Presidency under the Trade Unions Act. Criticisms of the regulations should be sent to the Secretary to Government, General Department, before 5th May 1927.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of January 1927. The average absenteeism was 8·11 per cent. for Bombay City, 1·85 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0·67 per cent. for Viramgaum, 11·72 per cent. for Sholapur and 6·87 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 10·14 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 11·54 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·40 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 7·00.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In February 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 155 as compared with 156 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 152.

EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

The European cost of living index stood at 156 in January 1927 as against 158 in October 1926.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 146 for the month of January 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were five industrial disputes in progress during January 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 4,002 and the number of working days lost 16,507.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During January 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities in favour of India amounted to Rs. 282 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for February 1927

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **55 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **52 per cent.**

In February 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was one point lower than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 156 in January and 155 in February 1927. This is 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and on a par with the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles declined by 3 points during the month. A fall of one point each in rice and bajri was nearly counter-balanced by a rise of 5 and 6 points respectively in wheat and jowari and the index number for cereals remained the same. Pulses, however, advanced by 5 points owing to a rise of 6 points in gram and of 3 points in turdal. Among other food articles, raw sugar (gul) rose by 7 points but sugar (refined) showed no change. Tea declined by 7 points and ghee and salt by 5 points each but mutton went up by 8 points. Potatoes and onions recorded a heavy fall of 54 and 76 points respectively. The " other food " index decreased from 188 to 180.

The " fuel and lighting " group remained stationary at 166. The index number for clothing advanced by five points to 148.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November .	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December .	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between January 16 and February 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—FEBRUARY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Jan 1927	Feb. 1927	July 1914	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·547	7·469	391 58	528 29	522 83
Wheat	,,	21	5·594	7·354	7·599	117·47	154·43	159 58
Jowari	,,	11	4 354	5 698	5·953	47 89	62·68	65·48
Bajri	,,	6	4 313	5·844	5 771	25·88	35 06	34 63
Total—Cereals ..	..	..	...	...	...	582·82	780·46	782 52
Index Numbers—Cereals ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*134*	*134*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6 417	6·682	43·02	64·17	66 82
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	8 662	8·823	17 53	25·99	26·47
Total—Pulses ..	..	..	...	...	...	60·55	90 16	93·29
Index Numbers—Pulses ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*149*	*154*
Other food articles— ..	..							
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	14 287	14·287	15·24	28 57	28 57
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	,,	7	8·557	13 693	14 287	59 90	95 85	100 01
Tea	,,	½	40 000	80 344	77·776	1·00	2·01	1 94
Salt . ..	,,	5	2 130	3·313	3 219	10 65	16·57	16 10
Beef	Seer ..	28	0·323	0·510	0 510	9 04	14 28	14 28
Mutton	,, ..	33	0·417	0·802	0 833	13 76	26 47	27 49
Milk . ..	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246 16	246·16
Ghee . ..	,,	1½	50·792	96·427	94 047	76·19	144 64	141·07
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	9 526	7·141	49·27	104·79	78·55
Onions	,,	3	1·552	7·141	5·953	4·66	21·42	17·86
Cocoanut Oil	,,	½	25·396	28·573	28·573	12·70	14·29	14 29
Total—Other food articles ..	..	..	...	...	...	381·18	715 05	686·32
Index Numbers—Other food articles	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*188*	*180*
Total—All food articles ..	..	..	...	...	...	1,024·55	1,585·67	1,562·13
Index Numbers—All food articles	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*155*	*152*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case ..	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0 792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61 49
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0 771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0 77
Total—Fuel and lighting ..	..	..	...	...	...	60 44	100·54	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting .	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·813	0·828	16·04	21·95	22·36
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	0·922	0·922	16 03	23·05	23·05
T. Cloth	,,	36	0·583	0·859	0·922	20·99	30·92	33·19
Total—Clothing ..	..	..	...	...	...	53·06	75·92	78·60
Index Numbers—Clothing ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*143*	*148*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent ..	..	..	...	...	...	*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total ..	..	..	...	...	...	**1,251·07**	**1,956·83**	**1,935·67**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.	..	..	...	...	...	**100**	**156**	**155**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in January and February 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

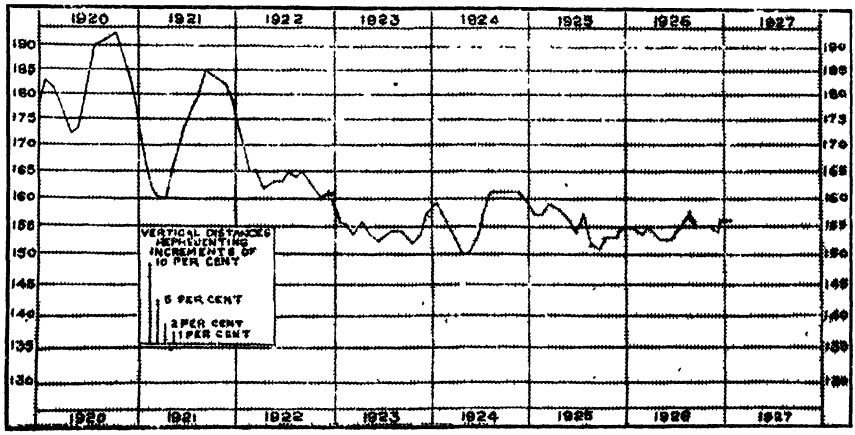
Articles	July 1914	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Feb. 1927 over or below Jan. 1927	Articles	July 1914	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Feb. 1927 over or below Jan. 1927
Rice ..	100	135	134	—1	Salt ..	100	156	151	— 5
Wheat ..	100	131	136	+ 5	Beef .	100	158	158	..
Jowari .	100	131	137	+ 6	Mutton	100	192	200	+ 8
Bairi ..	100	135	134	—1	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	149	155	+ 6	Ghee	100	190	185	— 5
Turdal ..	100	148	151	+ 3	Potatoes	100	213	159	—54
Sugar (refined)	100	187	187	..	Onions .	100	460	384	—76
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	167	+7	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	201	194	—7	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	155	152	— 3

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 25, Wheat 26, Jowari 27, Bajri 25, Gram 35, Turdal 34, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 48, Salt 34, Beef 37, Mutton 50, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 37, Onions 74, Cocoanut Oil 12.

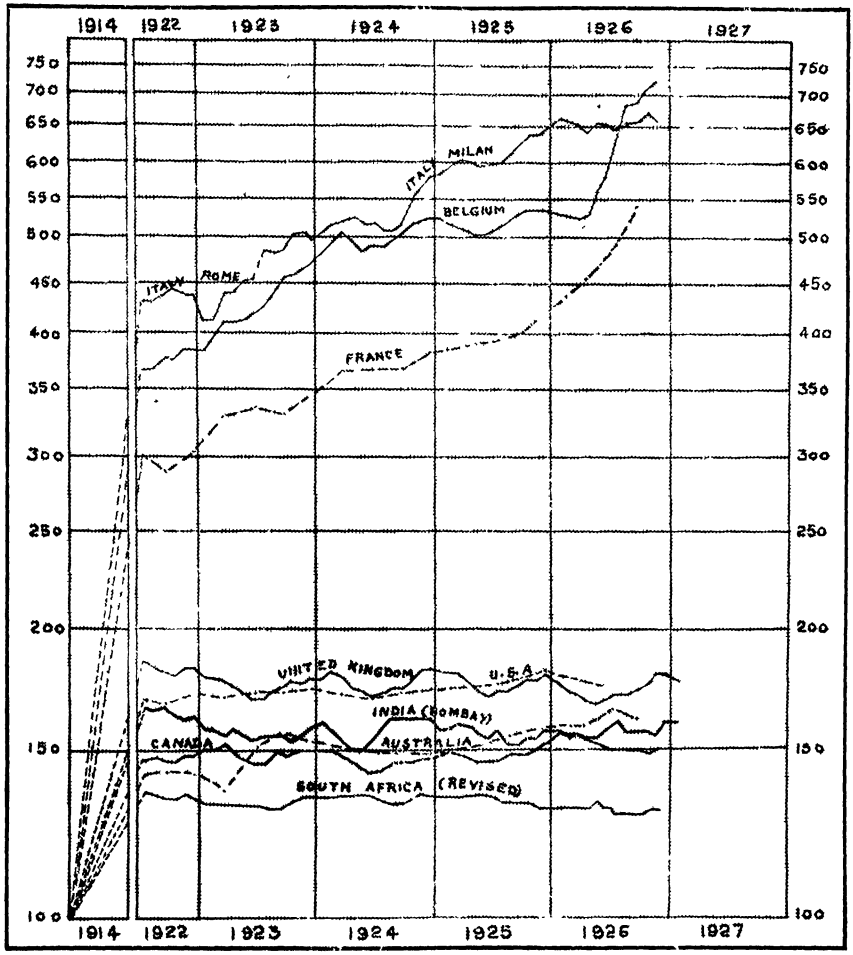
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 6 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos. · (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Index remains stationary

In January 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 146, the same as in the last two months. As compared with the previous month, there was a rise of 4 points in the food group but the non-food group fell by one point. The general index number was 117 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 3 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

There was a rise of 10 points in cereals and of 2 points in pulses which led to a rise of 9 points in the index for food grains. Rice remained stationary and gram declined by 2 points; but the other food grains advanced in price—there being a rise of 7 points in wheat, of 14 points in jowari, of 10 points in barley, of 19 points in bajri and of 5 points in turdal.

Both sugar (refined) and gul declined by 7 points each during the month under review. The " Other food " index fell by 4 points due to a decrease of 8 points in salt and 3 points in turmeric.

Under the non-food group there was a rise of 5, 4, 3 and 2 points respectively in Oilseeds, Raw cotton, Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles. Cotton manufactures declined by 2 points, Hides and skins by 8 points and Metals by 3 points. The non-food average stood at 146.

The sub-joined table compares January 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay**

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Dec. 1926	+ or − % compared with Jan. 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 7	+ 4
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 2	+12
3. Sugar ..	3	— 4	+ 1
4. Other food ..	3	— 3	—19
All food ..	15	+ 3	— 1
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 4	+ 7
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 4	—27
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	— 1	—17
8. Other textiles.	2	+ 2	— 9
9. Hides and skins	3	— 5	— 8
10. Metals ..	5	— 2	+ 5
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 1	+ 1
All non-food ..	29	— 1	— 7
General Index No.	44	..	— 5

100 = average of 1926

Groups	Jan. 1926	Apr. 1926	July 1926	Oct. 1926	Dec. 1926	Jan. 1927
1. Cereals ..	101	99	100	99	98	105
2. Pulses ..	94	94	102	102	104	106
3. Sugar ..	99	100	96	96	104	99
4. Other food ..	114	103	98	97	95	93
All food ..	103	99	99	99	99	101
5. Oilseeds ..	95	98	104	99	99	103
6. Raw cotton ..	110	99	103	106	78	81
7. Cotton manufactures ..	106	104	102	94	89	88
8. Other textiles	109	104	95	98	96	99
9. Hides & skins	105	116	99	99	101	96
10. Metals ..	100	100	99	98	107	105
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	104	99	97	100	104	105
All non-food ..	103	102	100	98	97	96
General Index No.	103	101	100	99	98	98

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 560.

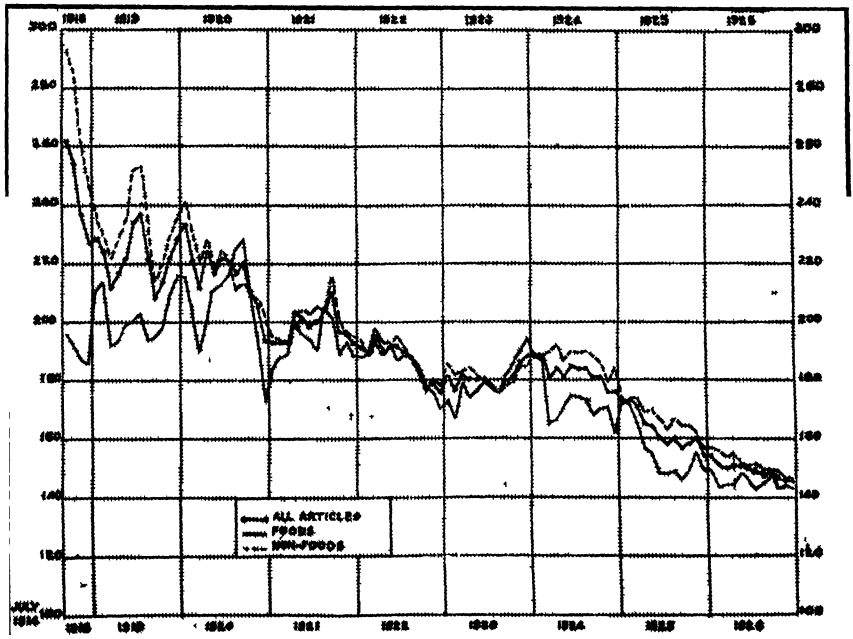
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-month'y average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920 .	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926 .. .	145	152	149
One-monthly „ 1927	147	146	146

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1918.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

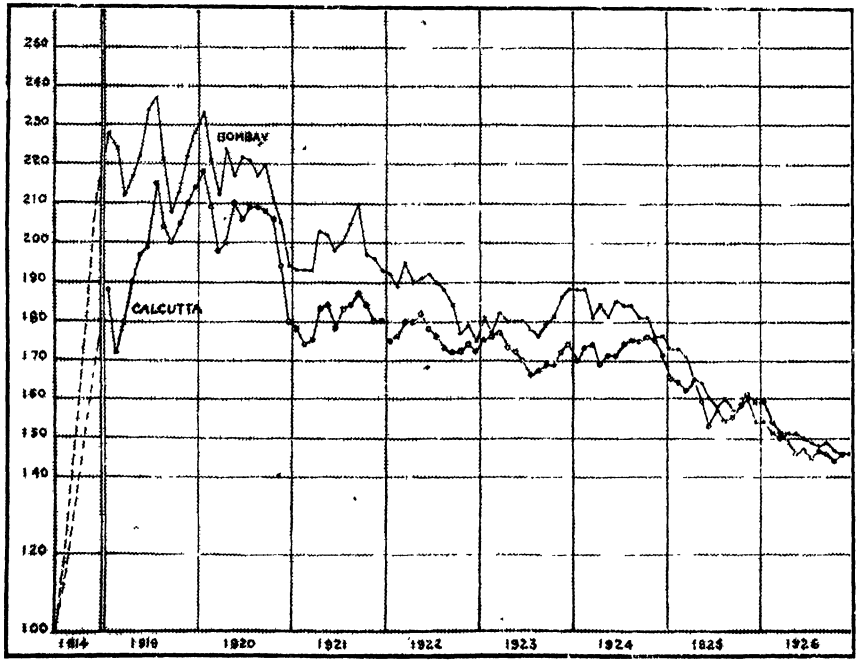


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1925 to March 1926 prices in Bombay were lower than those in Calcutta.

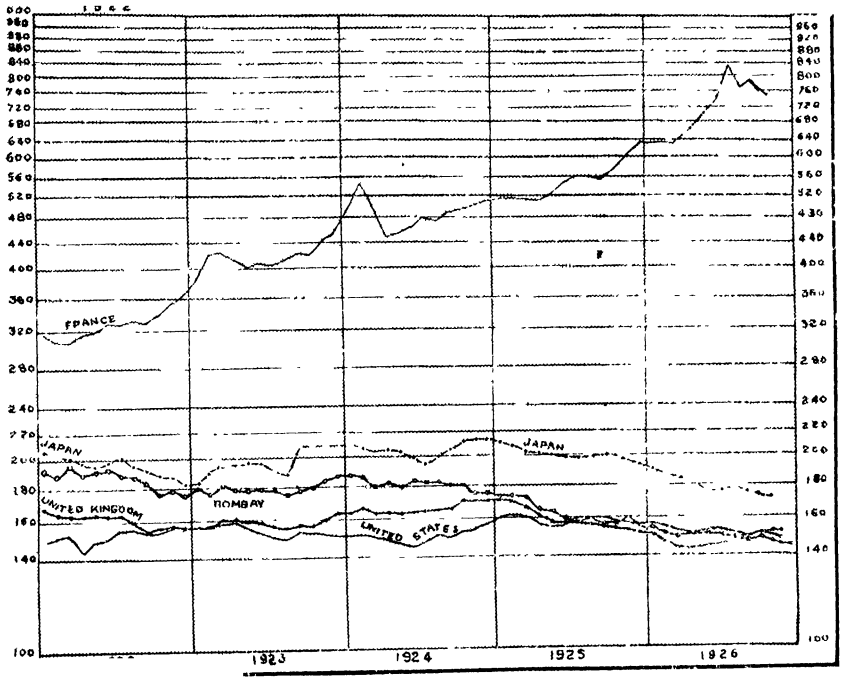
*The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale**



* Revised figures have been used for Calcutta since 1922.

COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " The Statist."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Dec. 1926	Jan. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Jan. 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	Dec. 1926
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee .	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+2 2	..
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 6	7 6	+1 8	..
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 8	5 7	+1 4	—0 1
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 2	6 1	+1 6	—0 1
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 7	6 2	+1 10	—0 5
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 7	8 10	+2 11	+0 3
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	2 0	2 0	+0 11	..
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	,, ..	28	1 2	2 0	1 11	+0 9	—0 1
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb. ..	39	7 10	15 4	15 8	7 10	+0 4
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 10	2 11	+1 2	+0 1
Beef ..		Lb. ..	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+1 6	..
Mutton ..	. .	,, ..	39	3 0	5 11	6 3	+3 3	+0 4
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,, ..	28	7 1	13 2	13 6	+6 5	+0 4
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,, ..	28	0 8	1 2	1 4	+0 8	+0 2
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,, ..	28	0 3	1 0	1 0	+0 9	..
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,, ..	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	..

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinc pokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during January 1927 as compared with the previous month were slight. Rice and wheat recorded no change in prices, jowari and bajri declined by 1 pie each per paylee and gram registered a decrease of 5 pies per paylee. The price of turdal was higher by 3 pies per paylee. Amongst other food articles, ghee and potatoes advanced by 4 and 2 pies respectively per seer, tea by 4 pies per lb. and salt by 1 pie per paylee. Raw sugar (gul) showed a decrease of 1 pie per seer. Mutton went up by 4 pies per lb. but the price of beef remained unchanged.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 300 per cent. above their prewar level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk, ghee and potatoes have risen by more than 75 per cent.; gul and salt by more than 60 per cent. and beef by 60 per cent. The rise in the prices of food grains is from 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in December 1926 and January 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in December 1926 and January 1927 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in December 1926 = 100*				Articles	*Bombay prices in January 1927 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—					Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	106	118	117	102	100	106	106	112	107
Wheat ..	100	84	95	100	109	100	80	91	96	109
Jowari ..	100	81	89	74	92	100	79	88	79	100
Bajri ..	100	89	93	83	93	100	85	94	76	96
Average—					Average—					
Cereals ..	100	90	99	94	99	100	88	95	91	103
Pulses—					Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	80	83	80	79	100	89	89	83	88
Turdal ..	100	104	119	103	121	100	100	103	92	122
Average—					Average—					
Pulses ..	100	92	101	92	100	100	95	96	88	105
Other articles of food—					Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	91	97	102	107	100	91	97	102	103
Jagri (Gul)	100	80	93	70	73	100	83	83	73	73
Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107	100	100	100	114	105
Salt ..	100	62	71	111	88	100	60	69	105	86
Beef ..	100	110	75	61	74	100	110	75	61	74
Mutton ..	100	82	82	82	91	100	78	78	78	86
Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76	100	57	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	76	76	76	79	100	74	74	71	77
Potatoes ..	100	98	120	113	69	100	47	84	93	63
Onions ..	100	60	70	93	59	100	58	80	93	62
Cocoanut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	100	88	112	107	98
Average—					Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	83	87	92	84	100	77	83	88	82
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**85**	**91**	**92**	**89**	**100**	**81**	**87**	**89**	**90**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles declined by 4 points each at Karachi and Ahmedabad and by 3 points at Sholapur whilst it advanced by one point at Poona. Referring back to January 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles was lower by 6 and 7 points at Karachi and Ahmedabad respectively and remained steady at Sholapur and Poona.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice was steady at Karachi, declined at Ahmedabad and Sholapur but rose at Poona. Wheat was steady and turdal increased at Poona whilst both fell at the other three centres. The relative prices of tea, salt, mutton, ghee and potatoes registered a decrease, those of beef and milk remained stationary and of gram advanced at all the four mofussil centres. Sugar (refined) was steady at all the centres except Poona where it showed a decrease. Cocoanut oil was cheaper at Karachi and Sholapur.

European Cost of Living Index—Jan. 1927

A FALL OF TWO POINTS

Average increase over July 1914 { **All items** .. **56 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **70 per cent.**

A description of the scope and method of construction of the index relating to families living in Bombay in European style was published on pages 13-15 of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1924. Certain changes which were subsequently carried out were described on page 10 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1924. In computing the index number from October 1924 it was found necessary to utilize a new source of information for certain price quotations as the old firm could not furnish comparable data. Care has however been taken to see that the quotations obtained from the new firm are comparable with those of the old one.

The items shown in the tables now presented are samples of articles and services. The prices in the prices columns are quoted for the " Unit of Quantity " in column two. The prices are then multiplied by the figures in column three " Annual number or quantity required " in order to give to the various articles their relative importance. The resulting expenditure figures for the sample articles are shown in the last three columns. The group and general index numbers are the index numbers of the figures in the last three columns, and are not simple index numbers of the simple prices.

It is important to emphasize that the figures presented are not intended to be a complete budget. They are merely samples of articles and services, selected mainly because it was possible to get information for their price movements. The idea underlying the whole enquiry is that these samples are fair samples, and that the index number obtained from them would approximate to the index number which would be obtained on any given individual budget, were it possible to ascertain the past and present prices of every particular article or service appearing in that budget.

The newspaper criticism on the index previously published attacked especially the rates for " Servants' wages " and " Rents." These two items were made the subject of special enquiries. The changes with regard to " Servants' wages " referred to in the November 1924 issue of the *Labour Gazette* have been carried out and the index numbers since January 1924 have been changed. In regard to " Rents " no change seems to be necessary before the 1924-25 data are collected from the Municipal Assessment Ledgers.

It is necessary again to emphasize that the index is only applicable to cases where the standard of living remains unaltered. As a matter of fact the standard of living does not remain unaltered, but normally moves upward in all strata of society. This movement is probably not measurable in arithmetic terms, but allowance should be made for it by persons using the index. It is also necessary to remark that the effect of any deterioration or improvement in quality and durability of the same article for different years cannot be shown. For example, shoes may possibly last a shorter time now than the same trade variety of shoe lasted in 1914. On the other hand tyres possibly last longer. Changes of quality would however affect mainly the factor " Annual number or quantity required"

and their effect on the index number would be small, especially if some changes are in one direction and others in the opposite direction.

As compared with October 1926, the general index number in January 1927 showed a fall of two points. The general index number is two points lower than that in January 1926.

Group Fluctuations

The main changes by groups are shown in the table below (100=the level in July 1914).

Group or item	Month and Year			
	October 1920	January 1926	October 1926	January 1927
I. Food—				
Bazaar	204	167	172	171
Stores	216	169	168	166
All food	207	167	171	170
II. Fuel and lighting	159	114	115	112
III. Clothing	249	162	160	153
IV. House-rent	132	163	163	163
V. Miscellaneous—				
Servants	140	184	184	184
Conveyance	157	147	134	132
School-fees, etc.	116	128	130	129
Passages	123	162	173	172
Income-tax	200	200	200	200
Household necessaries	168	136	128	132
Others	220	211	194	180
All miscellaneous	144	158	157	156
General Index No.	**157**	**158**	**158**	**156**

It will be seen that as compared with October 1926, the food index declined by one point owing to a fall of one point in food bazaar and of two points in food stores. There was a rise in the price of fowls, but eggs, tomatoes, sauce and biscuits recorded a fall. The fuel and lighting group showed a decrease of three points mainly due to a fall in the price of coal. The index number for clothing was 153 as compared with 160 in October 1926. The lower prices of tyres and inner tubes brought down the conveyance index by two points to 132. Household necessaries increased by four points whilst passages and school-fees fell by one point each due to a rise in the rate of exchange. The index number for the miscellaneous group was 156, *i.e.*, one point below the level of October 1926.

General Index Numbers

The following are the general index numbers for certain months in the years 1920, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927.

July 1914 = 100

Month and Year	Index No.	Month and Year	Index No.
October 1920	157	January 1926	158
January 1924	166	April 1926	158
April 1925	162	July 1926	159
July 1925	160	October 1926	158
October 1925	158	January 1927	156

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price × Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927	July 1914	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927
Food-Bazaar			Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Meat—								
Beef (selected)	Pound	132	0·250	0·438	0 438	33·00	57·82	57·82
Beef (for soup and stewing)	,,	720	0·125	0·172	0·172	90·00	123·84	123·84
Mutton	,,	192	0 250	0 469	0 469	48·00	90 05	90 05
Kidneys	Each	96	0 047	0·073	0 073	4 51	7·01	7·01
Suet	Pound	36	0 313	0·438	0 438	11·27	15 77	15 77
Poultry—								
Chickens	Each	48	0 375	0·625	0·625	18 00	30 00	30 00
Fowls	,,	24	1 000	1·375	1 625	24 00	33 00	39 00
Eggs	Dozen	360	0·375	0 594	0 563	135·00	213 84	202·68
Dairy—								
Milk	Seer	900	0 250	0 500	0 500	225 00	450 00	450·00
Butter	Pound	96	0·750	1·250	1·250	72 00	120 00	120·00
Bread	,,	360	0·094	0 156	0·156	33·84	56·16	56·16
Vegetables—								
Potatoes	Seer	360	0·063	0·109	0 109	22 68	39·24	39·24
Onions	,,	120	0 021	0 063	0 063	2·52	7·56	7 56
Tomatoes	,,	60	0 094	0 109	0·078	5·64	6·54	4 68
Fruit—								
Bananas	Dozen	24	0 188	0·313	0·313	4·51	7·51	7·51
Total	..	..	..	..	..	729·97	1,258·34	1,251 32
Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*172*	*171*
Food-Stores—								
Coffee	Pound	12	1 625	1 750	1·750	19 50	21 00	21·00
Tea	,,	12	0·938	1 875	1·875	11·26	22·50	22 50
Rice	,,	36	0·313	0 375	0 375	11·27	13·50	13 50
Flour	7 lb. tin	6	1 000	1 750	1 750	6 00	10 50	10 50
Sugar	Pound	240	0·125	0 250	0 250	30·00	60 00	60 00
Salt	2½ lb.	4	0 438	1·000	1 000	1 75	4 00	4·00
Cheese	Pound	24	1 000	2·000	2 000	24 00	48 00	48 00
Jam	,,	48	0·438	1 000	1 000	21·02	48 00	48·00
Sauce	½ Bottle	12	1·625	1·750	1 500	19·50	21 00	18·00
Biscuits	2 lb. tin	12	1·438	2·875	2 625	17·26	34·50	31 50
Oats	,,	24	0 625	0·813	0·813	15·00	19·51	19 51
Soda-water	Dozen	96	0·375	0·938	0 938	36·00	90·05	90 05
Cigarettes	50	72	1 250	1·750	1·750	90·00	126 00	126 00
Cheroots	50	12	1·500	1·625	1·625	18·00	19·50	19 50
Total	..	..	..	..	..	320·56	538·06	532·06
Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*168*	*166*
All-Food Total	..	..	..	..	..	1,050·53	1,796·40	1,783·38
Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*171*	*170*
Fuel and lighting—								
Coal	Ton	12	18·000	22·000	21·000	216·00	264·00	252·00
Electricity	Unit	768	0·250	0·250	0·250	192·00	192·00	192·00
Matches	Dozen	36	0·094	0·250	0·250	3·38	9·00	9 00
Kerosene oil	Tin	6	2·185	3·703	3·828	13·11	22·22	22·97
Total	..	..	..	..	..	424·49	487·22	475·97
Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*115*	*112*
Clothing Men—								
Shirts	Each	1 dozen	3·000	4·500	4·500	36·00	54·00	54·00
Vests	,,	½ ,,	1·375	2·875	2·875	8·25	17·25	17·25
Socks	Pair	9 ,,	2·500	3·583	3·583	22·50	32·25	32·25
Collars (stiff, white 4 fold)	Dozen	1	7·500	12·500	12·500	7·50	12·50	12·50
Collars (soft white)	,,	1	7·500	12·500	12·000	7·50	12·50	12·00
Cotton suit	Each	½ dozen	15·000	32·500	32·500	90·00	195·00	195·00
Coat, Sports	,,	⅔	35·000	39·500	35·000	23·33	26·33	23·33
Pyjamas, Suits	Pair	4	15·000	27·000	27·000	60 00	108·00	108·00
Hats	Each	1	12·500	15·500	15·500	12·50	15·50	15·50
Shoes	Pair	1	18·000	38·000	30·000	18·00	38·00	30·00
Lounge suit	Each	½	65·000	110·000	95·000	32·50	55 00	47·50
Rain coat	,,	⅛	65·000	97·500	87·500	13·00	19·50	17·50
Ties	,,	4	2·750	4·583	4·583	11·00	18·33	18·33
Total	..	..	..	..	..	342·08	604·16	583·16
Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*177*	*170*

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—*contd.*

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price × Annual No or quantity required		
			July 1914	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927	July 1914	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927
Clothing—women and children—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Muslins ..	Yard .	12 yards	0·750	1 000	1·000	9·00	12·00	12·00
Prints ..	,, ..	12 ,,	0·625	1 500	1 500	7·50	18 00	18·00
Satin .	,, ..	3 ,, ..	7·500	13 500	13·500	22·50	40 50	40·50
Silk for dresses ..	,, ..	12 ,, ..	5·500	5·250	5·250	66·00	63 00	63 00
Crepe de Chene	,, ..	12 ,, ..	4·500	7 500	5·875	54·00	90 00	70·50
Ribbon Satin .	,,	18 ,, .	0·375	0 375	0 313	6·75	6 75	5·63
Stockings .	pair ..	9 pairs	10 500	14 000	14·000	94·50	126 00	126·00
Vests .	vest ..	4 ..	7 500	10·500	10·500	30 00	42 00	42·00
Shoes, walking ..	pair ..	2 pairs	14 000	27·500	26·250	28 00	55 00	52·50
Total ..	..	..	..		..	318·25	453·25	430 13
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*142*	*135*
All-Clothing Total.	..	..	..		..	660·33	1,057·41	1,013·29
Index No. ..	..	..			..	*100*	*160*	*153*
House-rent ..	Per month	12 months	150·000	244·500	244·500	1,800 00	2,934 00	2,934 00
Index No. ..	..	..	..	.	..	*100*	*163*	*163*
Miscellaneous Servants—								
Butler ..	..	1	19·880	36·970	36·970	238·56	443·64	443·64
Cook ..	..	1	22 700	38·300	38·300	272 40	459·60	459·60
Hamal ..	..	1	15 900	27·300	27·300	190 80	327 60	327·60
Ayah ..	..	1	17 400	38 300	38·300	208·80	459 60	459·60
Dhobi ..	..	1	13·800	23 800	23 800	165 60	285·60	285·60
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,076·16	1,976·04	1,976 04
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*184*	*184*
Conveyance—								
Chauffeur ..	..	1	45·000	82·000	82·000	540·00	984·00	984·00
Petrol ..	Gallon ..	360	0·937	1·281	1·281	337 50	461·16	461·16
Oil ..	,, ..	12	3 500	4·750	4·750	42·00	57·00	57·00
Tyres ..	Set of 4 covers.	1	272·000	156·000	126·500	272·00	156 00	126·50
Inner tubes .	Set of 4..	1	67·000	33·000	27·000	67·00	33·00	27·00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,258·50	1,691·16	1,655·66
Index No ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*134*	*132*
School fees ..	Month ..	12 months	124 531	161·678	160·556	1,494 37	1,940·14	1,926·67
Passages ..	One return passage.	$\frac{1}{8}$..	1,138·500	1,972·688	1,960 000	759·00	1,315·13	1,306·67
Income-tax ..	Per month	12 months	55·000	110·000	110·000	660·00	1,320·00	1,320·00
House-hold necessaries								
Forks, table ..	Dozen ..	$\frac{8}{40}$..	27·500	43·000	43 000	4·13	6·45	6·45
Spoons, table ..	,, ..	$\frac{8}{96}$..	27·500	43·000	43·000	1 37	2·15	2·15
Knives, table ..	,, ..	$\frac{8}{10}$..	19·500	45·000	45·000	5·85	13·50	13·50
Tumblers, ½ pint	,, ..	$\frac{8}{12}$..	5·000	9·750	9·750	2·50	4·88	4·88
Tea-set ..	Set of 40 pieces.	$\frac{1}{8}$..	29·000	52·750	59·375	4·83	8·79	9·90
Dinner-service ..	Set of 93 pieces	$\frac{1}{10}$..	91·000	124·000	124·000	9·10	12·40	12·40
Towels ..	Pair ..	12 ..	5·000	8·500	8·500	60·00	102·00	102·00
Sheets ..	,, ..	6 ..	18·500	17·500	18·500	111·00	105·00	111·00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	198·78	255·17	262·28
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*128*	*132*
Others—								
Stationery ..	5 quires (paper).	4 ..	0·563	1·000	1·000	2·25	4·00	4·00
Medicine ..	Month ..	12 months	8·625	16·750	15·500	103·50	201·00	186·00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	105·75	205·00	190·00
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*194*	*180*
Miscellaneous Total	..	..	..	..	..	5,552·56	8,702·64	8,637·32
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*157*	*156*
All items Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	**9,487·91**	**14,977·67**	**14,843·98**
General Index No.	..	..	..	..	..	**100**	**158**	**156**

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in January .. 5 Workpeople involved .. 4,002

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during January 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in January 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in January 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Jan. 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Jan. 1927
	Started before 1st Jan.	Started in Jan.	Total		
Textile		5	5	4,002	16,507
Transport					
Engineering .. .					
Metal					
Miscellaneous.. ..					
Total ..		5	5	4,002	16,507

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was five all of which occurred in cotton mills, one each in Ahmedabad, Barsi and Viramgaum and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in these five disputes was 4,002 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 16,507.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, September 1926 to January 1927

—	September 1926	October 1926	November 1926	December 1926	January 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	3	7	4	2	5
Disputes in progress at beginning				1	
Fresh disputes begun ..	3	7	4	1	5
Disputes ended ..	3	7	3	2	4
Disputes in progress at end			1		1
Number of workpeople involved	3,778	6,120	1,216	712	4,002
Aggregate duration in working days ..	3,558	14,358	3,094	1,251	16,507
Demands—					
Pay	2	4	2	2	3
Bonus					
Personal	1	3	2		1
Leave and hours ..					
Others					1
Results—					
In favour of employees..	.. .	1		1	
Compromised ..			1		
In favour of employers..	3	6	2	1	4

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
February 1926 ..	5	5	4	5,817	75	25	..
March ,, ..	9	8	9	3,161	67	22	11
April ,, ..	3	3	3	13,087	67	33	..
May ,, ..	6	6	4	8,457	100	..	..
June ,, ..	9	7	7	1,752	100	..	..
July ,, ..	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August ,, ..	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ,, ..	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October ,, ..	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November ,, ..	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December ,, ..	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927 ..	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..

†This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported as beginning in January 1927 in the Bombay Presidency was five as compared with one in the previous month. The total number of work-people involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was 4,002, and the aggregate duration of all the disputes was 16,507 working days. Three of these disputes arose over wages questions, one on a question concerning the employment of particular persons, and the remaining one on details of working arrangements. During the month under review settlements were arrived at in the case of four disputes, all of which ended in favour of the employers. In one case work was resumed temporarily pending negotiation but the dispute was renewed due to the failure of the negotiations.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

Two disputes were in progress in Bombay City during the month. One of these occurred in the Madhowji Dharamsi Mill where the management reduced the strength of the mule spinning department from 23 to 18 owing to want of sufficient work. The remaining operatives of that department struck work on the 11th demanding the continuance of the full strength of the department. There was no change in the situation during the subsequent three days. On the 15th the management engaged 12 new hands, who, finding themselves too few to carry on the work of the department, left the mill at about 10 a.m. None of the strikers resumed work during the following two days. On the 17th the management made arrangements to get new men. The strikers gathered at the mill on the 18th and promised to resume work on the following day. This dispute thus ended in favour of the employers.

The other dispute took place in the Emperor Edward Mill. On the 16th, 200 weavers in shed No. 4 suddenly suspended work and brought out the other weavers so that by 1-20 p.m. all the 692 weavers in the mill were on strike. They became rowdy and assaulted a jobber and an assistant weaving-master and when they were forced out of the mill began to throw road metal at the windows. Soon after, the police arrived on the scene and the strikers rapidly dispersed. It was ascertained later that the grievances of the men were (1) an alleged reduction in their wages and (2) alleged compulsion to subscribe to a fund for a wedding present to the son of the agent. The management, however, denied the truth of both of these complaints. There had been an adjustment in the rates of one sort of cloth for which a double drop box rate had been erroneously given for some months. As regards the other point, when payment of wages was made on the 14th and 15th subscription boxes were placed

on the table in two departments and the men voluntarily put in the amounts they wished to subscribe. In two other departments a subscription was raised by lists. In no case was there any compulsion to subscribe. On the 17th about 300 men went to the mill but did not go in. The carding and the spinning departments were also closed as too few operatives were present. The secretary of the Bombay Textile Labour Union who, on behalf of the strikers, interviewed the manager in order to bring about a settlement was informed that before entering into any negotiations the men on strike should resume work. The Union thereupon convened a meeting of the strikers in the evening and conveyed to them the result of the secretary's interview with the manager. The strikers resolved to resume work from the 19th pending further negotiations. All the strikers except 50 weavers resumed work on that day. There was thus a temporary cessation of the dispute. The secretary of the Textile Labour Union again approached the management for negotiations but, it is stated, was not allowed to do so as the manager believed that it was not the Union's officials who were responsible for the return of the men but the jobbers. At a meeting of the weavers the same evening it was decided that the men should come out on strike from the 21st. Owing to certain repairs to its engine the mill did not work from the afternoon of the 20th till the 25th. When the mill was opened on the 26th none of the strikers resumed work. The management succeeded in getting 50 new hands at 1 p.m. and started the mill in the afternoon. By the 31st, 552 weavers were working of whom about 200 were old hands who had gone on strike. The dispute continued into February.

AHMEDABAD

In the Rajpur Mills the weavers complained to the Agent in the morning of the 17th January that they had to suffer a loss on account of the system of giving damaged cloth in lieu of wages. Subsequently they decided to continue working but some of the weavers demanded payment of their wages. The Agent asked them to come on the next day for payment, and 85 weavers left the mill at noon. On the 18th the management paid the wages of the strikers and dispensed with their services. The dispute ended in favour of the employers.

SHOLAPUR DISTRICT

The management of the Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill notified the workers on the 31st December 1926 that as the position of the mill was causing anxiety the extra allowances of 30 per cent. and 35 per cent. given to time and piece workers respectively would be discontinued. The mill was closed on New Year's day and when it was re-opened on the 2nd January none of the workpeople turned up for work as a protest against the notice. On the 4th, 400 weavers represented their grievances to the mill authorities and refused to rejoin work under the proposed conditions. They also demanded their wages for December. The secretary came from Bombay and discussed the question with the leaders of the strikers on the 7th. He said that the extra allowances could not be paid but promised to pay the outstanding wages of the strikers on the 9th after which date the mill would remain closed. The wages of 500 strikers were paid on the 9th. The remaining strikers refused to receive their

wages and stated that they were willing to resume work unconditionally The management, therefore, put up a notice that the mill would be kept open from the 11th. Work was resumed by 500 strikers on the 11th and the rest were expected to follow suit. The mill resumed its normal working from the next day and the strike came to an end. The result of this dispute was favourable to the employers.

VIRAMGAUM

The rates of wages paid for certain sorts of cloth in Viramgaum Spinning and Manufacturing Company were found to be higher than those paid by the Ahmedabad Mills. The management, therefore, proposed to reduce the rates and posted a notice in the mill showing the Ahmedabad rates and the proposed reduced rates. The men demanded the continuance of the old rates and when this was refused 250 weavers struck work on the 10th January. There was no change in the situation till the 14th. Thereafter the strikers began gradually to resume work. The strike terminated on the 20th and the result was in favour of the employers.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, January 1927

BOMBAY

The manager of an oil mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 22 for employing certain persons on a Sunday without giving them a holiday in lieu of that Sunday. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of six cases.

The manager of a cotton cleaning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*h*) for not keeping a " D " form register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The manager was also prosecuted under Section 43 (*c*) for not carrying out certain orders issued under the Factories Act. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10.

The manager of a flour mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (*h*) and Section 43 (*c*) for not maintaining a " D " form register required to be kept under Section 35. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 28 in respect of employing certain persons during day and night. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of six cases.

The manager of another oil mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (*j*) for breach of Section 22 (*b*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

AHMEDABAD

The parent of a child was prosecuted under Section 44 (*a*) for allowing a child to be employed in two factories. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5.

Industrial Disputes in the Bombay Presidency

A REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 1926

Statistics regarding industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency have been collected by the Labour Office since its inception in April 1921 ; and detailed particulars regarding the facts and figures in connection with each strike have been published every month in the *Labour Gazette*. A complete review of all disputes during the five years from 1st April 1921 to 31st March 1926 was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for May 1926. An annual review of the industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1925 was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for January 1926. The present article, similarly reviews and summarises these statistics for the year 1926.

The total number of disputes in the Bombay Presidency during the year 1926, amounted to 57. Out of these, 51 or 89 per cent. occurred in the Textile Industry, 2 or 3·5 per cent. in Litho Printing Works and the remainder in other industries. All these disputes occurred in individual concerns. The following table shows the location of the disputes classified according to the more important industries :—

Number of Industrial Disputes

Locality	Spinning and Weaving	Metal and Engineering	Litho Printing	Railway Workshops	Others	Total
Viramgaum	1	..	..	..	..	1
Ahmedabad	25	..	..	..	..	25
Chalisgaon	1	..	..	..	..	1
Poona	..	..	1	..	..	1
Bombay	20	1	1	..	2	24
Kalyan	..	..	..	..	1	1
Nadiad	1	..	..	..	..	1
Ghatkopar .. .	1	..	..	..	..	1
Hubli .. .	1	..	..	..	..	1
Broach .. .	1	..	..	..	..	1
Total ..	51	1	2	..	3	57

The number of workpeople involved in all disputes during the year amounted to 29,314 out of whom 22,911 or 78 per cent. were cotton mill operatives. If cotton spinning and weaving mills and the strike in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality are excluded, the number of workpeople involved in all other industries

amounted to only 903. The following table gives the numbers of workpeople involved classified according to industries :—

Number of Workpeople Involved

Locality	Spinning and Weaving	Metal and Engineering	Litho Printing	Railway Workshops	Others	Total
Viramgaum	250	..	..	..	..	250
Ahmedabad	7,745	..	..	..	..	7,745
Chalisgaon	69	..	..	..	..	69
Poona	..	..	60	..	..	60
Bombay	13,823	112	30	..	6 051	20,016
Kalyan	..	..	..	..	150	150
Nadiad	145	.	..	..	..	145
Ghatkopar	54	..	..	..	..	54
Hubli	375	..	..	..	..	375
Broach	450	..	..	..	..	450
Total ..	22,911	112	90	..	6,201	29,314

The number of working days lost during the year amounted to 78,113. Out of these the number of working days lost to the Cotton Mill Industry amounted to 52,660. If cotton mills and the working days lost due to the strike in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality are again excluded, the number of working days lost in all other industries amounted to 5,803. The following table shows the detailed figures by industries and localities :—

Number of Working Days Lost

Locality	Spinning and Weaving	Metal and Engineering	Litho Printing	Railway Workshops	Others	Total
Viramgaum	250	..	..	..	..	250
Ahmedabad	9,152	..	..	..	..	9,152
Chalisgaon	69	..	..	..	..	69
Poona	..	..	180	..	..	180
Bombay	39,177	358	345	..	23,792	63,672
Kalyan	..	..	..	..	778	778
Nadiad	185	..	..	..	..	185
Ghatkopar	540	..	..	..	..	540
Hubli	563	..	..	..	..	563
Broach	2,724	..	..	..	..	2,724
Total ..	52,660	358	525	..	24,570	78,113

Twenty-six strikes arose out of questions of pay and allowances, 20 on personal grounds and the rest on account of other causes. Disputes in connection with pay and allowances included stoppages of work on account of alleged reductions in rates of wages. The most important dispute under this head was connected with the discontinuance of the monthly grain allowance of Rs. 5 per head to the scavengers to be newly employed

in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality. Disputes on personal grounds occurred mainly on account of sympathy with dismissed jobbers and cases of ill-treatment. The disputes on account of all other causes put together amounted to 11 or 19 per cent. The following two tables show the causes of disputes (1) by localities and (2) by classes of concerns :—

Causes of Disputes by Localities

Locality	Pay and allowances	Personal	Conditions of work, discipline, quantity of work, etc.	Fine	Others	Total
Viramgaum	1	..		..	..	1
Ahmedabad	4	14	5	..	2	25
Chalisgaon	1	..		..	..	1
Poona	..	..		..	1	1
Bombay .. .	15	6	2	1	..	24
Kalyan	1	..		..	..	1
Nadiad	1	..		..	..	1
Ghatkopar .. .	1	..		..	.	1
Hubli	1	..		..	..	1
Broach	1	..		..	..	1
Total ..	26	20	7	1	3	57

Causes of Disputes by Classes of Industries

Class of Industry	Pay and allowances	Personal	Conditions of work, discipline, quantity of work, etc.	Fine	Others	Total
Spinning and Weaving Mills ..	21	20	7	1	2	51
Metal and Engineering Workshops	1	..		..	..	1
Litho Printing Works ..	1	..		..	1	2
Railway workshops ..	..	..		..	..	..
Others	3	..		.	..	3
Total ..	26	20	7	1	3	57

The two following tables show the results of disputes classified according to (1) classes of industries and (2) localities :—

Results by Classes of Industries

Class of Industry	Entirely favourable to workers	Favourable to workers	Entirely unfavourable to workers	Total
Spinning and Weaving Mills	2	10	39	51
Metal and Engineering Workshops ..		1		1
Litho Printing Works			2	2
Railway Workshops				..
Others			3	3
Total ..	2	11	44	57

Results by Localities

Locality	Entirely favourable to workers	Favourable to workers	Entirely unfavourable to workers	Total
Viramgaum	1			1
Ahmedabad	1	5	19	25
Chalisgaon			1	1
Poona			1	1
Bombay		4	20	24
Kalyan			1	1
Nadiad			1	1
Ghatkopar			1	1
Hubli		1		1
Broach		1		1
Total ..	2	11	44	57

Duration of Disputes.—The following tables set out the details in connection with the duration of disputes (1) by localities and (2) by classes of industries :—

Duration of Disputes by Localities

Locality	Number of disputes lasting						Total
	One day	Two days	Three days.	Four days	Five days	Over five days	
Viramgaum	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ahmedabad	11	6	2	4	2	..	25
Chalisgaon	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Poona	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Bombay	1	5	1	7	3	7	24
Kalyan	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Nadiad	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Ghatkopar	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Hubli	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Broach	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Total ..	14	12	4	12	5	10	57

Duration of Disputes by Classes of Industries

Class of Industry	Number of disputes lasting						Total
	One day	Two days	Three days	Four days	Five days	Over five days	
Spinning and Weaving Mills.	14	12	3	11	5	6	51
Metal and Engineering Workshops	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Litho Printing Works ..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2
Railway Workshops ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
Total ..	14	12	4	12	5	10	57

The figures given in these tables are given in terms of working days or in other words holidays are excluded. It will be seen that 14 or 25 per cent. of the total number of disputes lasted for one day only and 10 or 18 per cent. lasted for more than 5 days.

The year under review has been a period of comparative industrial peace. The total number of workpeople involved in all the disputes in 1926 was only 29,314 as against 175,631 in 1925, and the total time loss to industry as a whole amounted to only 0·69 per cent. of what it was in 1925. This peace was well marked in the case of the textile industry. Out of nearly a quarter million workpeople employed in this premier industry of the Presidency, those that were affected by the disputes amounted to only 22,911. The percentage of the loss in working days in 1926 to that of 1925 amount to only 0·48. The following table bears out the above remarks :—

Year	Number of industrial disputes	Number of workpeople involved			Number of working days lost		
		Cotton mills	Others	Total	Cotton mills	Others	Total
1925 .. .	69	168,315	7,316	175,631	10,996,739	391,058	11,387,797
1926	57	22,911	6,403	29,314	52,660	25,453	78,113

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during January 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of January 1927. Information was furnished by all Commissioners in the Presidency and out of a total number of 46 cases disposed of during the month 43 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The gross amount of compensation awarded amounted to Rs. 17,630-5-0 during the month under review as against Rs. 8,704-13-0 during the previous month and Rs. 17,423-10-0 during the corresponding month last year. Out of the 46 cases in which compensation was claimed 15 were fatal accidents 30 of permanent partial disablement and one of permanent total disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry was 29 and in other industries 17. The corresponding figures for January 1926 were 7 and 17.

The claimants for compensation were males over 15 years of age in all the cases disposed of during the month except one in which they were a female over 15 and a male and a female each under 15 years of age. Out of the total number of cases 23 were original claims, 22 were registration of agreements, and one a miscellaneous application. Compensation was awarded in 22 cases, agreements were registered in 22 other cases and the remaining two cases were dismissed.

Wholesale Prices in Bombay

AN ALL-ROUND FALL IN 1926

In the year 1925, the index number of wholesale prices fell from 173 in January to 154 in December, the twelve-monthly average for the year being 163, which was 19 points less than the average for 1924. The year 1926 was the second year in succession which recorded an all-round fall in wholesale prices.

During 1926, the general average of wholesale prices in Bombay (July 1914–100) was 149, *i.e.*, 14 points below the level of the previous year and 33 points below the annual average for 1924. The variations in wholesale prices during the last two years can be seen from the table on page 562 which gives the monthly index numbers for the various groups for the last two years. The general index declined from 154 in January to 146 in December 1926. The food index fluctuated between 143 and 149 but the non-food index moved more or less in conformity with the general average and decreased from 157 in the beginning to 147 towards the close of the year.

As compared with the previous year, Cereals showed a decrease of 3 points, a rise of 4 points in rice and 8 points in bajri being offset by a fall of 6,1 and 5 points respectively in wheat, jowari and barley. Pulses, on the other hand, recorded a sharp increase, gram being higher by 15 points and turdal by 22 points. The index number for all food grains was 142 as against 140 in 1925 and 124 in 1924. There was a further fall of 15 points in Sugar due mainly to a decrease of 33 points in raw sugar (gul). It will be seen that though in 1925, there was a heavy decline in sugar (refined) as compared with 1924, the price of gul had actually gone up by 7 points during the period. The decrease of 43 points in the " Other food " group was mainly due to the rapid fall in the price of turmeric, the index number for which averaged 144 in 1926 as compared with 248 in 1925 and 494 in 1924. Ghee declined by 15 points and salt by 9 points. The all-food index declined by 10 points to 145.

Under the non-food group, decreases were noticeable in all the sub-groups except Hides and skins which actually rose by 2 points. The fall of 15 points in the non-food index was chiefly due to the sharp decline in the price of cotton—both raw and manufactured—and of " Other textiles." Thus Raw cotton fell by 49 points, Cotton manufactures by 31 points and Other textiles by 17 points as compared with the preceding year. Oilseeds declined by 4 points and Metals and Other raw and manufactured articles by 6 points each. The Index number for the non-food group was 152 as against 167 for the year 1925.

To sum up : In 1926, the wholesale prices index stood at 149 which was 14 points below the level of the previous year and 33 points below the twelve-monthly average for 1924. The fall of 3 points in Cereals was more than counterbalanced by a rise of 19 points in Pulses, thus increasing the food-grains index by 2 points to 142. The heavy fall in the " Sugar " and " Other food " groups, however, resulted in bringing down the all-food index to 145. The non-food average declined by 15 points chiefly due to a marked decrease in the price of raw and manufactured cotton.

The following table shows the annual averages, for the years 1924 to 1926, of the individual and group index numbers of the various commodities included in the wholesale prices index number :—

Annual Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Bombay

July 1914 100

Articles	Annual Average for 1924	Annual Average for 1925	Annual Average for 1926	Percentage rise (+) or fall (—) in 1926 over or below 1925
Rice	141	136	140	+ 2·9
Wheat	136	158	152	— 3·8
Jowari	128	136	135	— 0·7
Barley	122	141	136	— 3·5
Bajri	137	156	164	+ 5·1
Cereals	134	149	146	— 2·0
Gram	91	106	121	+ 14·2
Turdal	93	108	130	+20·4
Pulses	92	107	126	+17·8
Food-Grains	124	140	142	+ 1·4
Sugar (Mauritius)	248	183	176	— 3·8
Sugar (Java, white)	225	162	167	+ 3·1
Raw Sugar (gul)	151	158	125	—20·9
Sugar	208	165	150	— 9·1
Turmeric	494	248	144	—41·9
Ghee	190	187	172	— 8·0
Salt	164	147	138	— 6·1
Other food	283	194	151	—22·2
All food	173	155	145	— 6·5
Oilseeds	141	138	134	— 2·9
Raw Cotton	252	189	140	—25·9
Cotton Manufactures	232	207	176	—15·0
Other Textiles	191	154	137	—11·0
Hides and Skins	156	146	148	+ 1·4
Metals	169	157	151	— 3·8
Other raw and manufactured articles	163	158	152	— 3·8
Total Non-food	188	167	152	— 9·0
General Average	182	163	149	— 8·6

Employment Situation in January 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 126 or 86·90 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of January 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 126 returns amounted to 7·33 per cent. in January as against 8·36 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City all the 79 mills which were working during the month furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 8·11 per cent. as compared with 9·14 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 55 mills were working during the month. Information was supplied by 37 or 67·27 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 1·85 per cent. in January 1927 as against 2·15 per cent. in December 1926. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

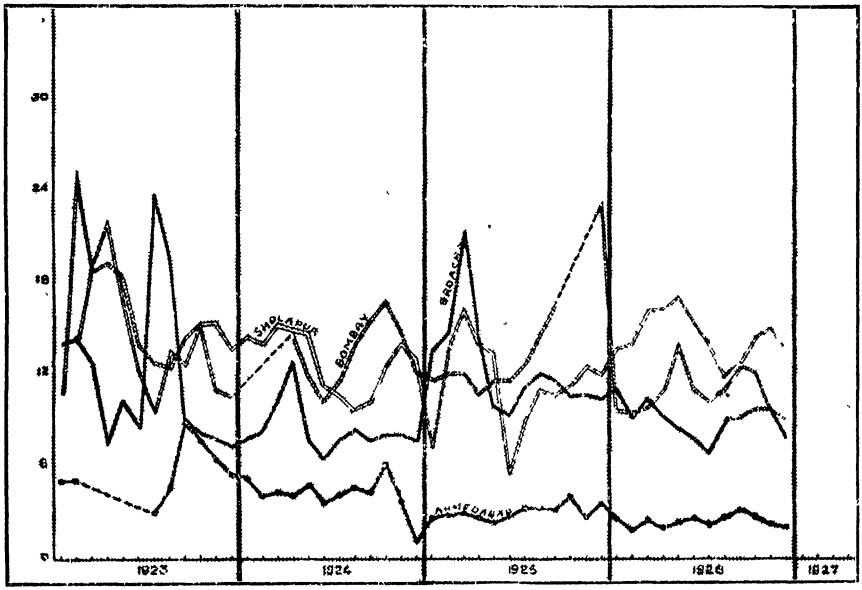
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 0·67 per cent.

All the mills in Sholapur submitted returns and none of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour. The average percentage absenteeism amounted to 11·72.

Two out of the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism during the month under review was 6·87 per cent. as against 7·91 in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was adequate in all the centres studied whilst absenteeism decreased.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 10·14 per cent. as against 13·31 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 11 54 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 8·40 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 7 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

On 23rd January 1927 a meeting of doffer boys working in mills was held. It was decided to form a Majur Kumar Mandal or Young Labourers' Union. The chief activities of the Union will be to take the boys for short excursions on holidays, to arrange for games and amusements and to combine instruction with pleasure by story-telling, magic-lantern slides, etc.

The Committee appointed by the Municipality to report on the high mortality in Ahmedabad suggested to millowners that separate gutters should be constructed for the proper disposal of the dyeing and bleaching water in mills. A few mills have expressed their willingness to contribute towards the expenditure on this scheme.

The District and Sessions Judge in the course of his judgment in a recent case remarked that the method of recruitment of labour in mills should be investigated. The facts of the case were that a jobber was said to be taking all the earnings of one man working under him and also living with him. The worker tried to rid himself of the jobber, and as a result was dismissed from the mill. The jobber and the worker came to blows and the brother of the jobber was killed.

THE B. B. & C. I. RY. EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

As no action has been taken on the memorial sent previously to the Loco. and Carriage Superintendent regarding the scale of pay of drivers, firemen, etc., an appeal is to be sent to the Agent of the Railway by the President of the Association.

THE AHMEDABAD DISTRICT POST AND R. M. S. UNION

The annual meeting of the above Union was held on 30th January 1927. Resolutions congratulating Mr. N. M. Joshi and Mr. S. C. Joshi on their nomination to the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council respectively were passed. It was decided to reserve one seat on the Managing Committee for postmen and other lower grade officials for every fifty members on the list. The annual report and statement of accounts were adopted unanimously and office bearers for the new year were elected.

It is stated that as a result of the discussion during an interview with the Honourable Sir B. N. Mitra the scale of pay of the clerical staff in Ahmedabad City has been raised from Rs. 40—130 to 50—150 and that a house-rent allowance of Rs. 4 at Ahmedabad and Rs. 2 at Viramgaum has been sanctioned for postmen and menials.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th February 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture :—

" The crop reports received so far go to show that excepting the Konkan and the Western portion of the Deccan and Karnatak the outlook over a large part of the Bombay Presidency is decidedly worse than it was at the

time of the last report. The predominent factors, which have brought this sudden change, are the frost about the middle of January in Gujarat, the presence of locusts in North Gujarat and in places bordering on Kathiawar and the entire absence of rainfall during the period under review all over the Presidency.

The position regarding crops and rainfall as it appears to-day in the various divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Konkan.—Here there was no rainfall anywhere. The sowing of late crops was almost completed and the young crops were progressing well. The harvesting of cardamom, sugarcane, betel-nut and other garden crops continued in parts of the Kanara District. The condition of irrigated crops was on the whole satisfactory.

Gujarat.—The whole period under review was totally dry. Here the *rabi* crops including cotton suffered to a considerable extent due to frost about the middle of January and to locusts in a good many centres in Northern Gujarat, particularly in those bordering on Kathiawar. The crops in areas south of the Narbada river were however progressing well generally. Cotton picking was in progress almost everywhere. The condition of the irrigated crops was on the whole satisfactory.

Deccan and Karnatak.—The period under review passed away without giving any rainfall in these two divisions. Here the condition of crops was fairly satisfactory in the Western and Central belts of the Deccan but in the whole of the eastern part of the Deccan and most of the Karnatak the crops were suffering badly from prolonged drought and in many cases their condition was very precarious. The jowar crop was on the whole very stunted in growth and had been removed in many places to serve as fodder for the cattle. Cotton picking was almost completed in the Deccan, but was in progress in places in the Karnatak where the general prospect of that crop will be considerably below the normal this year. The crops in the canal areas and those helped with irrigation generally were doing well in both the divisions."

Unemployment in Great Britain

A TRADE UNION ENQUIRY

The Management Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions in Great Britain appointed recently a sub-committee to investigate causes of unemployment and the possible remedies to be adopted. The sub-committee has prepared a list of questions inviting not only answers in respect of facts, but also suggestions and statements of opinion. These questions are addressed to all concerned in the problem of unemployment.

The list distinguishes three forms of unemployment : seasonal, sporadic and endemic. Seasonal unemployment is defined as that which in some trades recurs at regular intervals ; sporadic unemployment, as that which occurs irregularly and may arise, among other things, from war or changes in methods of production and in fashions ; endemic unemployment as

that form of unemployment which has become chronic owing to psychological, as well as economic or political causes.

The questions relating to seasonal unemployment have as their object to determine the causes of seasonal fluctuations and more particularly the extent to which they can be attributed to weather and varying temperatures.

Sporadic unemployment occupies the most important place in the questionnaire. The questions relating to it seek to elucidate the influence on the irregularity of unemployment of a large variety of factors such as war, threat of war, non-co-operation, boycotts, industrial dislocations, shortage of supplies or increased prices of raw materials, increases in other items of the cost of production (for example taxes, freightage, wages), delay in deliveries to home or overseas markets, imposition of tariffs or preferences, manufacturers' or speculators' restrictions on production, or restrictions imposed by labour, its mobility, or by housing shortage in the district, shortage of capital for industrial purposes, juvenile labour.

As regards endemic unemployment, it is sought to ascertain to what extent the causes lie in moral or physical defects of the individual, or in circumstances beyond his control. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 17, 1927.*)

Coalmining Dispute: Effect on Employment in Other Industries

The dispute in the coalmining industry led to a stoppage of work which began on 1st May 1926, and which for some months was practically complete throughout all the coalfields of Great Britain. It was not until about the beginning of July that reports were received of the resumption of work in certain districts by a small proportion of the miners, but from that time onwards the numbers showed a steady increase, until at the end of November there were nearly half a million at work in all districts. With the conclusion of agreements at the end of November and in December terminating the dispute, district by district, these numbers rapidly increased.

A stoppage of such a character was bound to have important effects on the state of employment in many other industries and these effects are indicated by the monthly statistics of unemployment among persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. As a general rule, these statistics show the position on the last Monday or the last Monday but one in each month.

At 26th April 1926, immediately before the coalmining stoppage began, out of the twelve million persons insured against unemployment 9·2 per cent. were recorded as unemployed; 7·7 per cent. being classified as wholly unemployed and 1·5 per cent. as temporarily stopped from the service of their employers.

Towards the end of May the chief effects of the general strike which began on 4th May and was called off on 12th May had passed away, and

the abnormal unemployment which prevailed from the end of May 1926 onwards may undoubtedly be attributed mainly to the stoppage in the coalmining industry.

At 24th May the unemployment percentage for all industries except coalmining had risen to 15·1 (wholly unemployed, 9·4 per cent. and temporarily stopped 5·7 per cent.); while by the end of June it had further advanced to a total of 15·3 per cent. (wholly unemployed 9·7 per cent. and temporarily stopped 5·6 per cent.). At the end of July there was a slight reduction to the extent of 0·3 per cent. in the total, and this tendency continued steadily during the succeeding months until at the 22nd November the total percentage unemployed was 14·1 (wholly unemployed 10·0 per cent., and temporarily stopped 4·1 per cent.). At 20th December the total percentage had fallen to 12·1 (wholly unemployed 9·0, and temporarily stopped 3·1). The reduction down to 22nd November occurred entirely among persons classified as temporarily stopped, while the percentage of those wholly unemployed tended to increase. The increase in the percentage relating to those temporarily stopped shows conclusively that the main increase in unemployment was directly attributable to the effects of the coal stoppage (and this is true of the individual industries affected), while the gradual, but slight, increase in those wholly unemployed is doubtless to be attributed to the protracted character of that stoppage.

TEXTILES

Both the cotton and wool textile industries experienced heavy increases in unemployment in May. In the cotton industry the percentage rate of unemployment at 26th April was 9·8; by 24th May it had risen to 26·6 per cent. There was a slight improvement in June among those temporarily stopped, but at 26th July the total percentage had risen to 28·0. Thereafter there was considerable improvement varying somewhat in degree from month to month, until at 22nd November the unemployment rate had fallen to 19·1 per cent. and by 20th December it had improved further to 13·2 per cent. The experience in the woollen and worsted industry was somewhat similar, except that the maximum figure was reached by 21st June (24·9 per cent.) and thereafter a steady improvement was shown month by month. At 22nd November the unemployment percentage stood at 14·2, and at 20th December it had decreased further to 11·0. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, January 1927.*)

Membership, Income, Expenditure and Funds of Registered Trade Unions in 1925

The Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies has issued a Statistical Summary, giving preliminary figures of the membership, income, expenditure and funds in the years 1916-1925 of those Trade Unions in Great Britain which were registered under the Trade Union Acts. The figures given may be subject to adjustment in the Annual Report of the Chief Registrar for 1926.

Comparative figures for the years 1916, 1920 (when the aggregate membership of Trade Unions reached its highest point) and 1923-25, extracted from this Summary, are given below, the membership being shown to the nearest thousand, and the income, expenditure and funds to the nearest £1,000. It should be observed that the figures relate only to Great Britain, and that registered Trade Unions of employers, as well as employees, are included in the figures. The employers' Unions included, however, form only a small proportion of the total, *e.g.*, in 1925 they numbered 93, with a total membership of 44,000, an aggregate income of £126,000, expenditure of £114,000 and funds of £160,000.

Registered Trade Unions in Great Britain

	1916	1920	1923	1924	1925
Number of Unions on Register at end of Year	611	656	583	578	582
Number of returns received*	610	664	683	578	578
			Thousands		
Membership at end of Year	3,670	6,982	4,414	4,501	4,492
Income :—			*Thousands of £*		
From Members	4,543	11,315	8,087	8,344	8,105
From Ministry of Labour (Unemployment Insurance and Administration Expenses)	22	312	2,649	2,070	3,114
From Other Sources	406	1,372†	643	936	742
Expenditure :—					
Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit‡	117‡	1,718‡	3,733‡	3,139‡	4,521‡
Dispute Benefit	90	3,219	721	1,188	333
Sick and Accident Benefit	554	748	783	822	793
Funeral Benefit	230	297	286	310	319
Other Benefits, including Superannuation and Grants to Members	507	723	934	992	1,062
Payments from Political Fund	32	185	228	216	114
Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc.	167	1,687†	403	673	355
Management and Other Expenses	1,354	4,363	3,308	3,327	3,294
Total Funds :—					
At beginning of Year	8,600	15,917	9,907	10,905	11,535
At end of Year	10,521	15,975†	10,889	11,581	12,706

*In some instances Returns were received from unions removed from the Register during the year.

†The sum of £1,687,000 shown under "Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc." in 1920, includes a substantial amount of funds transferred to the Amalgamated Engineering Union by certain unions which amalgamated to form that union in 1920, but not brought into account in the return of that union until 1921. The figures shown for 1920 under "Income from Other Sources" and "Total Funds at end of Year" are, accordingly, lower than would have been the case if these funds had been brought into account.

‡The expenditure on Unemployment Travelling and Emigration Benefit shown in this Table (*e.g.*, £4,521,000 in 1925) represents the total amount paid by the unions, including, in addition to the benefit chargeable to the funds of the unions, the amounts disbursed by the unions and recoverable from the Ministry of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The total amount receivable each year from the Ministry of Labour on this account and in respect of administration expenses (*e.g.*, £3,114,000 in 1925) is shown under "Income".

In the following Table details are given of the aggregate membership, income, expenditure and funds in 1925 in each of a number of different groups of Trade Unions :—

Group	Unions on the Register*	Membership at end of 1925	Income	Expenditure		Funds at end of 1925
				Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit	Other Expenditure	
		Thousands	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's
Mining and Quarrying ..	99	816	1,456	768	658	1,394
Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances	77	665	3,913	2,152	1,550	2,882
Textiles	67	244	862	453	352	1,410
Clothing	15	148	367	171	165	530
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	20	145	542	130	332	675
Building, Decorating, etc.	29	332	1,142	378	588	602
Transport	28	644	1,235	102	852	3,025
Commerce and Finance ..	34	219	340	34	275	307
Other and General ..	120	1,235	1,978	333	1,384	1,720
Total of above ..	489	4,448	11,835	4,521	6,156	12,545
Registered Employers' Associations ..	93	44	126	..	114	160
Grand Total ..	582	4,492	11,961	4,521	6,270	12,705

(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, January 1927.)

Advantages of Shorter Hours

The National Report of the Dutch Factory Inspectors for 1925 declares that the shortening of working hours has resulted in more rational production. Numerous instances go to prove that output has in a few years increased by 50—100 per cent. in proportion to the number of workers employed, without any real demand for more intensive work from the workers. The prevailing opinion is, moreover, that Dutch industry is not behind its foreign competitors in respect of efficiency in production. For the workers the results are wholly good. An enquiry into the use of spare time shows that there has been a marked change for the better in the living conditions of the workers. The improvement in the health of the population in recent years is also attributed in the Report mainly to the shortening of working hours. The increase in working capacity and the consequent diminution in the number of working days lost through sickness have undoubtedly reduced the wages bill of the country. This official report, therefore, shows that the effect of shortened working hours has been extremely satisfactory, morally, hygienically, and materially. *(From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, December 2, 1926.)*

*In some instances Returns were received from unions removed from the Register during the year.

Trade Unions in Soviet Russia

The Seventh Congress of Trade Unions in Russia, which was recently held at Moscow, was, by reason of the nature of its agenda and the amplitude of the discussions, an event of great importance in the economic and social life of Soviet Russia.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSARY OF LABOUR

Mr. Schmidt, Commissary of Labour, dealt at length with various labour questions and explained the policy pursued by the Commissariat of Labour. His address was concerned mainly with the protection of the workers and with unemployment. The following is a résumé of the statements made and views put forward by him, together with facts quoted by various delegates who took part in the discussion.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment, which is widespread and threatens to become a permanent evil, is a source of considerable anxiety both to the trade unions and to the Commissariat of Labour, the more so because, despite a certain development in industry, the number of unemployed, so far from diminishing, is tending to increase.

Unemployment, said the Commissary of Labour, had tended to increase of late years, but the events of last year had given rise to considerable anxiety. During the year, industry had absorbed 400,000 fresh workers, not counting seasonal and temporary work which had given employment to a considerably larger number of workers than hitherto ; yet the number of registered unemployed was about 100,000 more than a year ago. At the end of 1926 the labour exchanges registered 1,023,000 unemployed.

To this statement of Mr. Schmidt should be added the fact that the number of unemployed trade unionists registered with their trade unions is more than one million, and that unemployed trade unionists constitute about one-half of the total number of the unemployed. The total should therefore be put at more than 2,000,000. Further, in view of the fact that registration with the labour exchanges is optional, many unemployed persons among seasonal workers, or workers who come from the country, fail to register with them. Moreover, a large number of seasonal workers are without work for about half the year.

The only figures available for distinguishing unemployed persons according to classes of occupation are those supplied by the labour exchanges which give the following information :—

Class	Number	Percentage
Skilled workers	217,000	21·2
Intellectual workers	184,000	17·9
Railwaymen, seamen, boatmen, postal and telegraphic employees	41,000	4·1
Unskilled workers	527,000	51·5
	969,000	94·7
Workers not classified	54,000	5·3
Total ..	1,023,000	100·0

" One-half of our unemployed," stated the Commissary of Labour, " are accounted for by the agricultural or urban excess population, or by arrangements entered into as the result of the social position of inhabitants of the towns."

The great mass of the unemployed is composed of labourers, of peasants who come into the towns to earn their living, of seasonal workers who prefer to remain in the urban centres rather than to return to their villages and of intellectual workers and persons dispossessed by the revolution, who are now in search of employment. To these groups should be added those whom Mr. Schmidt calls " professional unemployed," or persons who, by travelling from one town to another, succeed in obtaining relief in every town, pass the winter in the Crimea or the Caucasus, and in the spring return to the great urban centres.

As regards unemployment among young persons, the Commissary of Labour describes the situation as deplorable. According to the representative of the Young Communists, there are more than a million young persons under 18 years of age who are entirely without work. Among unemployed persons registered with the labour exchanges, 14 per cent. are under 18 years of age.

State undertakings refuse to take on the full number of apprentices fixed by law, stating that the number is too burdensome. On the other hand it has been noted that, among workers engaged and classed as " young persons," there are many who are more than 18 years of age, whom the undertakings keep on in order not to reduce them to unemployment or in order not to be compelled to engage young persons whose work is less productive.

CRITICISMS BY DELEGATES

The majority of the delegates agreed with the Commissary's survey of the existing situation of unemployment.

Representatives of various trade unions pointed out, however, that the unemployment among skilled workers was more serious than had been stated by Mr. Schmidt. Such, for example, is the case with the metal workers, workers in the printing trades, and textile workers.

Moreover, almost all the speakers accused the Commissariat of Labour and its accessories, the labour exchanges, of failure to exert sufficient energy in the campaign against unemployment.

Since the engagement of workers was made free, it was stated, undertakings are more and more tending to dispense with the services of the exchanges, mainly for the reasons, first, that the work of selection is badly carried out by the exchanges, which frequently send workers whose qualifications are in no way adapted to the employment offered, and secondly, that the work of the exchanges is, in general, inefficient and their staffs are inadequate and badly paid. There is in the exchanges a spirit of negligence and indifference which is prejudicial both to industry and to the workers. Moreover, undertakings prefer to engage workers who arrive from the villages in the hope that they will find these workers more docile and cheaper to hire.

Generally speaking, the Commissariat of Labour is accused of making no effort to control the labour market. It often happens that a given

undertaking dismisses a certain proportion of its workers in order to engage other workers the next day; and very often the determinating factor in such proceedings is favouritism or nepotism. The Commissary of Labour is of opinion that this charge is very often justified, but that the enforcement of a restrictive system compels the managements of undertakings to exercise more severe disciplinary measures over their workers. It is clear that cases of dismissal for serious faults, unjustifiable absences, systematic insubordination, etc., have considerably increased.

THE COMMISSARY'S PROPOSALS

The Commissary of Labour is of opinion that it is impossible to return to Communist methods of regulating the labour market. Among other things there can be no question of making recourse to the labour exchanges compulsory, as has been urged by certain trade unionists.

In order, however, to some extent to remedy the disorganisation of the labour market, trade unions should include in collective agreements a special clause to the effect that undertakings should recruit 90 per cent. of their workers through the medium of the labour exchanges, and that the only free form of engagement should be that allowed in the case of highly skilled workers.

As preventive measures, the Commissary of Labour recommends reduced hours of work and the employment on other work of workers whose posts are suppressed for reasons of economy, *i.e.*, on secondary work in the same undertaking, so long as the crisis persists.

The Commissariat of Labour will also conduct an energetic campaign against unemployed persons who refuse to accept work which is offered to them, even if this work is not their usual occupation, and also against unmarried unemployed who are unwilling to change their place of residence when work is offered to them in another district. Such persons will be deprived of unemployment allowances, and in the event of a second offence will be struck off the registers of labour exchanges.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Among measures of relief for the unemployed, distinction should be made between unemployment insurance allowances, public works and the collective production associations organised by the unemployed.

Complaints were made by most of the trade unions represented at the Congress of the inadequacy of the allowances and the small number of unemployed in receipt of them. At the present moment social insurance operates only in favour of skilled workers, and of certain groups of unemployed who have a long record behind them as workers. Ordinary labourers, semi-skilled workers and the majority of intellectual workers are virtually deprived of the benefits of unemployment insurance, although no such exception is provided for in the Labour Code.

The policy of the Commissariat of Labour is to increase to some extent the number of unemployed benefiting by insurance. Efforts will also be made to readjust the amount of the allowance. For highly skilled workers the allowance is too small, namely, about 20 Chervonetz roubles per month, or 20 to 25 per cent. of wages. On the other hand, in the case of less highly skilled workers, if they benefit at all by insurance the allowance would appear to be sufficiently high to minimise their wish to secure employment.

COMPLAINTS OF NON-MANUAL WORKERS

The representatives of non-industrial unions, and in particular of commercial employees and teachers, complained of the very trying conditions of labour to which they were exposed and of the total lack of interest shown in them by the Commissariat of Labour.

Thus, commercial employees have for the most part to work in premises which are damp, insufficiently lighted and not properly ventilated. Each employee has to serve on an average 300 customers a day. Their hours of work are not regulated in accordance with the Labour Code, and they very often work many hours' unpaid overtime. The Commissariat of Labour, to which they have appealed, has taken no interest in the question and has left it to the discretion of the Commissariat of Commerce, which is entirely out of contact with the employees' unions. Moreover, the factory inspectors never visit the State commercial or co-operative undertakings, despite the complaints of the unions.

Teachers in villages complained that the provisions of the Labour Code in connection with dismissal and overtime were not observed. They were dismissed without notice and without compensation. They were compelled continually to work twice and even three times the statutory number of hours, and received no supplementary salary although their basic salary was extremely low.

Doctors also complained of hours of work. It frequently happens that they are compelled to work a twelve hour day. The delegate of the Union of Doctors described conditions of labour in the hospitals as appalling. He also referred to the increasing number of cases of malingering workers threatening the doctors with violence unless they give them a medical certificate.

HOURS OF WORK

As regards hours of work, complaints were also received from the industrial unions, particularly from the railwaymen, whose representative made the following statement:

I wish to point to the cases of violation of labour legislation in transport undertakings. There is no single railway on which the regulations concerning hours of work have been observed, although there exists for this purpose a special Decree of the Commissariat of Labour. Labour is exploited just as if there were no labour legislation at all. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 17, 1927.*)

British Labour's African Policy

NO SLAVERY OR FORCED LABOUR

A pamphlet has been published by the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party stating the British labour movement's official policy with regard to the native races of Africa and to the territories inhabited by them for which the British Government is responsible.

A preface is contributed by Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., ex-Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which he declares that the labour movement holds that there are three vital requirements if the well-being of the African natives is to be assured. Of these requirements, the first relates to land,

the second to labour and the third to education. That relating to labour, Mr. Thomas states, is the necessity that " the native must, as a worker, be a free man, and hence there must be no slavery, no forced labour, and no pressure upon him to work for settlers."

The pamphlet works out in detail the principles summarised by Mr. Thomas, beginning by drawing a distinction between the two administrative policies actually in conflict to-day with regard to the economic development of the African tropics. " The first, which is based upon the original land system, and aims at developing native use of the land, may be called the African Policy ; the second, which is based upon European capitalist exploitation or ownership of the land, may be called the European Policy."

Of these, it is the African policy which the labour movement intends to adopt and extend. The pamphlet, however, finds this policy subject to one great danger, for, " unless the rights of the native communities are, as in Northern Nigeria and Tanganyika, adequately safeguarded, it may lead to the establishment of a system of individual native landlordism, which is no less bad than white landlordism."

With regard to labour conditions, the policy of the Labour Party is as follows :—

Every form of slave trading and slave owning should be prohibited absolutely. The status of slavery should not be recognised in any court of law, and all Governments should permit any person over whom rights as a slave are claimed to assert and maintain his or her freedom forthwith. The onus of proof of any debt or obligation alleged to be due from the person claimed as a slave by reason of such debt or obligation should be on the person claiming it, and should be without prejudice to the free status of a defendant.

The prohibition of compulsory labour should be absolute except for purely native purposes of public utility within the reserves, and then only when demanded in accordance with native law and custom within tribal areas. Tribal rulers should not be permitted to assign any powers they possess for calling out tribal labour. All voluntary labour should be paid by a wage in cash to the labourer, and not to the chief or any other third party. All taxation discriminating between the natives engaged upon indigenous industry and those in the employment of immigrants or white men, or between those who work and those who do not, should be prohibited.

No labour contract should be enforceable under the sanctions of criminal law. All labour contracts should be made before a magistrate or other officer of the administration. The labour contract should be a civil contract, breaches of which should be remedied by civil process only. No labour contract should be valid for a period exceeding six months, at the termination of which the labourer should be free to offer his services to any employer. or to none.

THE COLOUR BAR

With regard to the colour bar, the Labour Party lays down that in all territories no disabilities resting solely upon colour should be erected

against any section of the community. All occupations should be open to every man and woman, regardless of race, creed or colour.

The Labour Party, however, recognises that special provisions would be required in order gradually to introduce its policy into territory on the East Coast where so far the European Policy has been largely followed. These provisions, in so far as they relate to labour conditions, are :

(1) The Government must make labour free in fact as well as name everywhere.

(2) The Government must prohibit every kind of influence by magistrates and other Government agents in obtaining labour, and persuade the natives that the supply of labour to settlers is no concern whatever of the Government. The Government should publicly announce to all native authorities that all pressure to persuade natives to work for wages is forbidden.

(3) Public Departments, when they have occasion to employ labour, must treat labour as entirely free.

(4) In view of the inadequacy of the labour supply, new railways, while desirable when constructed to thickly populated areas, are positively injurious when constructed to other districts unless accompanied by immigration of cultivators of the soil. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 24, 1927.*)

Trade Agreements in the United States, 1925

The Bureau of Labour Statistics has just issued as Bulletin 419 a digest of trade or collective agreements between employers and employees made during the year 1925. The list is not complete as there is no central depository where agreements may be found, and, in addition, many agreements are never reduced to writing.

Collective agreements are usually the result of bargaining between a local union and local employers. Indeed, with the exception of the glass, pottery, and wall-paper unions, and provisions regarding the use of the union label, few agreements binding the locals are made by national officers, although certain national officers demand the right to approve agreements made by the local unions.

Examination of the agreements shows that the eight-hour day is very generally observed in the organized trades. The 44-hour week is practically the rule of the building, clothing, metal, printing, and stone trades for day work, while in many instances 40 hours' work only is required of night workers. There are, indeed, a few instances where only 40 hours a week are required for day workers also.

In addition to the question of hours of labour, the most usual subject covered by the collective agreement is the rate of wages to be paid. Other subjects not infrequently included relate to terms of apprenticeship, provision for arbitration, seniority of employment, and equal distribution of work. Of late there has been tried in the clothing industry a system of unemployment insurance whereby a fund is created by contributions from the employer and employees and is used to make payments to employees during the period of unemployment. (*From U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington.*)

The Prompt Payment of Wages

Proposed Legislation by the Government of India

VIEWS OF ORGANISATIONS CONSULTED BY THE LABOUR OFFICE

In July 1926, the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour, issued a circular letter to all Local Governments, inviting expressions of opinion, after consulting the interests concerned, on the question of providing legislation for ensuring prompter payments of wages. A copy of this letter was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1926. The Government of Bombay in the General Department asked the Labour Office to undertake the work in connexion with the procuring of the views of Associations and Unions of Employers' and Workers' interests and of all persons and bodies who were in a position to express views on the subject.

Copies of the Government of India letter together with a summary of the results of a very elaborate and extensive enquiry conducted by the Labour Office in the year 1924 into Periods of Wage Contracts, the number of days normally elapsing between conclusion of period of work and actual payment, and facilities granted by employers for obtaining advances and rations (the results of which enquiry were published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for January 1925) were forwarded to 78 persons, bodies and associations with a request that they should furnish their views on the various questions raised in the Government of India letter. Seventy replies were received. The following summary contains the classified views on each question discussed in the Government of India letter forwarded by the principal non-official organisations consulted.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE LEGISLATION

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Chamber of Commerce

It may be true that the time which elapses between the end of the period by which wages have been earned and the date on which they are paid, is longer in India than is usual in industries in many other countries, but it should be remembered that conditions are entirely different, and provided wages, when paid on a monthly basis, are paid within 15 days from the date on which they have been earned the Committee do not think that there is any serious ground for complaint. In their opinion this interval could not be reduced without adopting some working period shorter than the month which in the main is the period adopted in most organised industries in Bombay.

The existing system might appear to involve some hardship in the case of the first month, but many works have started Co-operative Societies and provide other financial facilities for their permanent staff of workers which help them to tide over this period. In cases where the labour is migratory and leaves work at certain seasons of the year there may also

be some hardship, but as this is of the workman's own making, no legislation would prevent it.

Bombay Millowners' Association

The Committee of the Association emphatically protest against the proposed legislation for the following reasons :—

(1) In the cotton mills of Bombay workmen absent themselves in large numbers on the days following the pay-day. Owing to this tendency on the part of the workpeople, the usual rule in Bombay mills is to pay operatives their wages for a particular month on the day preceding a holiday during the second week of the month. The wages are thus usually paid between the 10th and 15th of every month, and this system does not appear to have evoked any dissatisfaction whatever among the workpeople.

(2) If the wages are paid by the 7th of each month, musters involving intricate piece-work calculations will have to be completed by the 4th of each month at the latest. This is a sheer impossibility unless extra staff is employed or the existing staff is made to work overtime during these four days. In either case mills will have to incur extra expenses which they can ill-afford in these times.

(3) A number of mills supply cheap grain, cloths, etc., to their workmen, and such mills will be placed at a still greater disadvantage for they will have to prepare their wages muster even earlier than the 4th of each month, as deductions on account of these supplies can only be made after the wages muster is ready.

(4) The Honourable Sir B. N. Mitra, Member of Industries and Labour, in the course of the debate on Mr. Chaman Lal's Weekly Payment Bill in the Legislative Assembly in February 1926 said " What Mr. Chaman Lal really wants is not that the wages should be paid weekly, but that the wages should be paid quickly. Here again, Sir, the general practice seems to be that there is not inordinate delay in payment, that the waiting period is not unnecessarily large. At the same time sporadic cases have occurred in which payments have been unduly delayed." This very conclusively shows that the proposed legislation is quite uncalled for.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The Federation, on the whole, objects to the proposed legislation on the following grounds :—

(1) It is true that the time elapsing between the end of the period by which wages have been earned and the date of payment is longer than in Europe, but it must be borne in mind that closer supervision and checking of the pay sheets is necessary in this country than would be required in Europe. This takes time and then there is no fixed minimum wage as in other countries so that in an Engineering workshop there are a very large number of different classes of workpeople on different rates of pay and in each class again they get different rates according to efficiency and on the top of this there are different systems of calculation according as to whether men are working on ordinary daily rates, piece-work rates or overtime.

(2) The hardship, if any, exists only during the first work period, as subsequent payments are made at regular intervals. The operatives in Engineering workshops usually start work as lads while they are living with their parents and are not dependent upon themselves so that the hardship of this first period is not really felt. In cases of sickness or taking leave the operatives have put by certain small savings as provision against such happenings. There are several concerns in Bombay which advance loans to mitigate the delays in receiving the first payments on returning to duty. The so-called hardship is very greatly exaggerated in the minds of the Government of India in regard, at any rate, to the larger and better run workshops which come under the Factory Act.

Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

The Committee are of opinion that looking to the method of working in the mills and factories the delay of a few days in the matter of payment of wages cannot be considered unreasonable. Calculations of wages, etc., in the cotton textile industry are very elaborate, rendering it thereby rather difficult to pay wages more promptly than is being done at present. It is the experience of the Committee that wages are paid, as a rule, in all the mills on or before the 15th of every month, and if a holiday falls earlier wages are paid on the day previous to such holiday, and this cannot be considered such a late payment of wages as to justify any action being taken in the matter.

Bombay Presidency Trades Association

As the wages of the employees of the members of the Association are regularly paid, the Committee have no remarks to put forward in this connexion.

Ahmedabad Millowners' Association

It is desirable that payments of wages in organised industries such as mills and factories should be made as early as possible.

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

The hardships referred to in paragraph 3 of the Government of India's letter are admitted, but the fact should not be overlooked that provided payment is made regularly, it is only in the first month of his employment that an employee suffers through delay in the receipt of his wages.

Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi

The Association has considered the matter both from the employers as well as from the employees' point of view and has come to the conclusion that legislation ensuring prompt payment of wages to labourers is essentially necessary. It has been observed that in most of the large as well as small industrial concerns wages are paid on a monthly system and generally a fortnight or so is allowed to elapse from the last date of the month before payments are made. This state of affairs aggravates the economic difficulties of the Indian labourer who, if he once falls into the clutches of the money-lender finds it almost impossible to extricate himself. It is therefore advisable to make it obligatory on the employer to pay his workmen at the close of each period. The main reasons advanced against the legislation

are (1) the thriftlessness of the worker and (2) increased absenteeism after pay-day. While it is admitted that there is some truth in the statement, it cannot be denied that most workmen devote their earnings entirely to the maintenance of their families, and the danger of workmen keeping away from work is really not so serious as to warrant delay in payment of wages, which eventually becomes the cause of their ruin and misery.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway

The question of accelerating payment of wages throughout the railway was carefully considered in 1918 and 1919. At a meeting of the Heads of Departments of the railway held on 17th June 1919, it was opined that while it was desirable to speed up payment, it was not important enough to justify the introduction of " payment before audit "—a system involving a radical departure from our recognised Railway's procedure and attended by considerable risk to justify its adoption. The feasibility of accelerating preparation of pay sheets was also investigated but the idea had to be dropped. Generally speaking, railways are in regard to this matter in a different category to industrial concerns. The staff have definite and valuable privileges, the payment of wages is assured and regular with the result that there is little or no necessity for the employee to turn to the money lender. So long as the staff are paid regularly every month on a fixed date it is not of great importance to them what the actual date may be. Any acceleration in payment will probably entail extra cost attended by additional risks.

In view of the reasons stated above the proposals should not be made applicable to Railways unless it can be proved that the present system causes a real hardship to the staff.

Bombay Port Trust

It is agreed that, for the reasons given, a delay of a fortnight or more in payment of monthly wages inflict some hardships on employees and that legislation is desirable to check the abuses referred to.

The Karachi Port Trust

The Board of Trustees are in sympathy with the movement for enforcing the payment of wages at an earlier date than has been customary in the past as far as disbursement of monthly pay is concerned.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay City Municipality

While I fully agree that prompt payment of wages to the labouring classes is eminently desirable, there are, so far as this Municipality is concerned, certain practical difficulties in the way of the payment being made to all the labourers within one week after the close of the month. Payment to the labour staff of the Bombay Municipality commences on the sixth working day of each month and is completed on the eighteenth working day. Labour in the Municipal workshop, which is subject to the Factories Act, is now paid on or about the tenth working day following the close of the month. It might be possible to pay this staff on the 6th or 7th working day after the close of the month but it would be very

inconvenient to make such payments to whole of the labour staff employed by the Municipality. The statutory restrictions upon Municipal expenditure make a strict pre-audit of all pay sheets essential and it is found in practice that it is only the minor labour establishments which can be paid within ten days after the close of the month.

The Municipality has full sympathy with all steps calculated to ameliorate the lot of the worker and is prepared to do whatever is practicable to assist such steps. But the payment of the monthly wages a few days earlier than at present would not be of such great help to the worker as to justify the inconvenience and increased expenditure in clerical and other staff which would be required to give effect to the proposed legislation.

The Bombay Improvement Trust

The Chief Officer is in general agreement with the principles as defined in the Government of India letter.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The Social Service League

Legislation for the purpose of preventing undue delay in payment of wages to industrial workers is quite necessary in view of the unsatisfactory condition of things obtaining at present in that respect. The delay in the case of employees of certain concerns is simply scandalous ; it is unnecessary but employers seem to think that it is thereby easier for them to have a hold on their employees. This withholding of wages leads, it has been observed, to the indebtedness of a large number of workmen and also to the habit of purchasing of the necessaries of life on credit which proves very costly to the workers in the long run.

The case for setting statutory limits to the time within which wages must be paid is quite clear and the League is of opinion that the proposed legislation has long been overdue.

The Central Labour Board

There is a necessity for legislation of the type proposed. The abuses in connection with delays of payments of wages are not confined only to lower classes of manual workers, but also to several occupations in which persons of the clerical and middle classes are employed. Such delays are particularly associated with payments made on a monthly basis and the Board know of a certain leading paper in Bombay making payments to all the members of their staff two months after the actual payment was due. The hardships suffered by workers need not be emphasised. Even if the employee is not financially embarrassed on beginning his employment, having no reserve of money from the very initial stage, under present conditions he is forced to contract a debt at a high rate of interest. Employers endeavour to alleviate such hardships by making advances at a high rate of interest. The whole situation can be relieved by strengthening the hands of the employees by legislation.

The Bombay Textile Labour Union

The Committee agrees with the Government of India that the state of affairs in respect of the periods by which wages are paid in organised

industries and in respect of the delays which are associated with their payment cannot be regarded as other than satisfactory, that these delays are, in a number of cases, so great as to add appreciably to the economic difficulties of the workmen and give rise to several abuses. If such abuses can be checked or eliminated by legislation, it is the duty of Government to introduce such legislation.

The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

In the interest of the unorganised workers like the Bombay Textile workers it is by all means essential that employers of labour be compelled to adopt shorter periods for the payment of their wages. The present system which obtains in Bombay keeps the employees to work for six weeks before they get their monthly wages. This practice involves good many mill hands to contract debts.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Parbhadevi and Ghorupdeo)

It is necessary that statutory provisions should be laid down to ensure prompt payment of monthly wages.

Ahmedabad Labour Union (In "Majur Sandesh")

In Ahmedabad the system is mostly to pay wages fortnightly. In the case of labourers in the spinning department the "hapta" is fixed at 16 days and in the case of the weaving department at 14 days. Ordinarily, payment for the previous hapta is made after the wages have accumulated for nine days in the Spinning Department and for seven days in the Weaving Department. In the case of monthly paid workers wages are paid after 15 to 18 days. In some cases payments are made after longer intervals than indicated. Great hardship results to workers in consequence of these delays in payments. In some cases advances are granted against earnings due. But it is to be remembered that the interest at the rate of one pice per rupee is ordinarily charged and in one or two places at the rate of even one anna per rupee. Charging interest to labourers although wages are due is a great injustice.

On account of the present system labourers have to borrow in the very beginning as they do not get the full wages in time. This debt goes on increasing with interest and labourers are not free from that debt for the whole of their life. Holding back of wages also leads to terrorisation of the worker in that wages are sometimes forfeited for the least mistake and the worker is in a perpetual condition of conscious fright.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bombay European Textile Association

(With reference only to the textile industry in Bombay)

No legislation should be introduced on this subject until the operatives by majority from each mill agree to accept any change from the present monthly system. This is a subject for the operatives themselves to agree to and not for any Labour Department of Government, or other labour representatives to claim to be able to say exactly what the views of the operatives are. It is not considered that the state of affairs is as black as

it is painted. Recruitment to the textile trade is not now as it may have been formerly; the prospective operative begins as a youth and in most cases is a member of a household established in Bombay and is the son, daughter or wife of an operative already employed at the same mill. He is therefore amongst his relations and friends and if of sober and industrious habits need not incur the large debts referred to. Not a single instance has been found in Bombay during the past few years where there has been a strike in order to obtain wages overdue.

In the Bombay mills payments of wages during the year 1926 were made on the 10th of the month following the month for which the wages were due, in four cases on the 11th, in one case on the 12th, in three cases on the 13th and only in two cases on the 15th. It will therefore be seen that as far as the textile industry is concerned there has not been any unreasonable delay in the payment of wages due.

Any form of legislation which will encourage operatives in such practices should not be put forward until such time as the operatives are sufficiently educated to appreciate that with all privileges there are corresponding duties and responsibilities.

SCOPE OF THE MEASURE

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Chamber of Commerce

The evil of protracted payment is not particularly associated with the larger industrial establishments. Most large organised industries pay within 15 days and it is in the case of the smaller industries that abuses are particularly liable to occur. With the present establishment of factory inspectors it would doubtless be a simple matter to apply any measure or Act which might be introduced to large industries, but unless such an Act can be applied to all large and small establishments coming within the scope of the Factories Act, legislation on the lines suggested would be futile.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The Federation are in agreement with the Government of India as regards the difficulties which must arise in legislation of this sort and these are such that legislation could only affect those concerns coming under the Factories or Mines Acts. This appears to be one of the weaknesses of the whole scheme as it restricts the legislation to concerns which are generally well organised and where abuses are less likely to be found and leaves the smaller concerns entirely free to carry on as they please. If it is not possible to make legislation of this nature universal it is suggested that it were better left alone altogether as it is not a matter of any particular urgency or necessity.

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

The legislation should be confined to those establishments which are subject to the operation of the Factories Act or Mines Act. But it is considered essential that Government should also issue stringent regulations to Government departments, municipalities and semi-government offices rigidly to adhere to the terms of the Act in order that employees *generally* may benefit and not only certain sections.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

It is agreed that the abuses which the proposed legislation is designed to check are particularly associated with the larger industrial concerns and that, for this reason and having regard to the difficulty of extending the operations of the measure to smaller establishments, the legislation should be restricted in its operation to those concerns to which the provisions of the Factories or the Mines Act are applicable.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The Social Service League

It should be applicable not only to mines and factories coming under the Mines Act and the Factories Act, but State employment—railways, municipalities, etc. It should cover all organised industries in large establishments.

The Central Labour Board

The legislation should not be confined in its operation to those establishments which are subject to the operations of the Factories or the Mines Acts but should also be extended to other industrial concerns where the more intellectual classes such as clerks are employed.

The Bombay Textile Labour Union

The scope of the measure should be as wide as possible and should cover all the establishments, large or small, Government, Semi-Government or private, such as Railways, Tramways, Docks, Plantations, Municipalities, Local Boards, Government services in addition to the establishments covered by the Indian Factories and Mines Acts. Any restriction in the operation of the measure will defeat to a great extent the object for which it is intended. It is true that an additional staff will have to be employed ; but it is worth while doing so even at the cost of some extra expenditure, otherwise the measure will lose much of its utility and the abuses which it seeks to check or eliminate will remain where they are.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bombay European Textile Association

(With reference only to the textile industry in Bombay)

If the measure is introduced it should be confined in its operation to those establishments which are subject to the Factories Act, *on condition that the measures proposed will be entirely in the form of recommendation and not legislation.*

METHOD OF ENFORCEMENT

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

The Inspecting officers under the Factories and the Mines Acts should have power to institute prosecutions.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

The proposal that the power to prosecute should be vested in some independent authority such as an Inspecting Staff is approved but it is considered that the procedure to be adopted in regard to inspections should be very carefully defined, it being clearly desirable to avoid all unnecessary interference with the internal management of the concerns affected. It would probably be sufficient in most cases if the employers were required to furnish periodical certified returns showing the period and date of disbursement of their staff wages.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The Social Service League

The League concurs with the Government of India in the view set forth in paragraphs 6 and 7 of their circular letter, but suggests that it should be open to the labour unions to move the inspecting officials to take action against defaulting employers.

The Central Labour Board

Legislation for prompt recovery of wages must be enforced. Though the employer is likely to victimize the employee thereafter yet his prosecution would certainly diminish his reputation and would prove sufficient warning against his credit. Sufficient protection should be granted to the workers against victimisation.

The Bombay Textile Labour Union

If the Act is to function efficiently and is not desired to remain a dead letter it is essential that that Act should set up an independent machinery for enforcing it. The enforcement of the Act should be in the hands of an outside and independent agency.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Parbhadevi and Ghorupdeo)

The suggestion made for creating an outside machinery for the purpose of inspection as to whether the provisions of the Factory Act, the Workmens' Compensation Act and other similar Acts enacted for the benefit of the worker are satisfactorily observed is a healthy and a necessary one. Unless there is some such outside machinery to look after the interest of the workers, till they themselves are capable to safeguard their right on the strength of Unions, they will not get the proper advantage of all these reforms introduced in their interest.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bombay European Textile Association

(With reference only to the textile industry in Bombay)

The only comment that the Association has to make on the suggestion that Inspecting Officers should be entrusted with the enforcement of any Act of the nature proposed is that the duties of the Factory Inspector should not entail having to take sides between employers and employees in so far as wages is concerned.

STATUTORY LIMITS TO THE TIME WITHIN WHICH WAGES MUST BE PAID

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Chamber of Commerce

The system of monthly payments has been in force in Bombay City for a great number of years. Rents are paid monthly and accounts rendered monthly. Consequently any acceleration of the payment of wages, *i.e.*, in less than 15 days could not be enforced without a general revision of the period for making up accounts. The making up of accounts generally for periods shorter than the month would entail a disturbance of the Indian Economic System which is only warranted if a desire for a change is manifested by the workers themselves. But it was apparent from the enquiry undertaken among the mill operatives with regard to the Weekly Payment of Wages that the majority of the operatives were opposed to any change in the existing system.

The obstacles in the way of payment of monthly wages within a shorter period than 15 days after " making-up day " are—

(1) the difficulty of introducing satisfactory mechanical time keeping appliances,

(2) considerable amount of clerical labour which would be involved owing to the fact that overtime is worked up to the last day of the month and men are employed on different grades of work at varying rates of pay, and

(3) the delays incidental to workpeople being employed at a distance from headquarters.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to pay within one week especially in the case of railways and many public bodies. Owing to the bulk of the railwaymen living at a distance from headquarters many days' delay must necessarily elapse in getting in pay-sheets and having them checked and returned to the different stations. Similar considerations apply to engineering works and large firms of contractors who undertake work at a distance from headquarters.

Bombay Millowners' Association

There may be some justification for legislation in those cases where monthly wages are paid 3 or 4 weeks or even more after they are become due, but looking to the conditions prevailing in this country, the rights of labour will be sufficiently protected if legislation was enacted prohibiting the withholding of wages for more than a fortnight after they have become due.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The Federation are very strongly of the opinion that a fortnight from the end of the period under calculation for monthly payments, and a week for fortnightly payments is the absolute minimum that should be allowed. It is impracticable to pay out, as a general rule, in less than two weeks in the case of monthly payments or in less than one week in the case of fortnightly payments.

Ahmedabad Millowners' Association

(*a*) Monthly Wage Earners.

Monthly Wage Earners of the cotton mills in Ahmedabad receive payment a fortnight after the end of the month. These people by the very nature of their work and temperament do not change places often and hence receive regularly their salary from month to month. In case, however, it is felt that the period of a fortnight after the completion of the month is long, the Committee of the Association have no objection to restrict the period of payment to 10 days.

(*b*) Fortnightly Wage Earners.

Spinners and Weavers in the Ahmedabad mills receive their wages for every fortnight and the payment is made on the eighth day after they are due. Any new hands who join afresh receive their wages within 22 days which period will cause no hardship whatsoever to such hands. It emphatically objects to any departure being made in the case of those who receive their wages within 22 days because any further restriction of the period within which wages may be paid would lead to greater absenteeism, change of places, disturbance in the continuity of service and consequent disorganisation in the industry.

(*c*) Daily Wage Earners.

The number of these is insignificant so far as cotton mills are concerned, but if there be any room for contention that they should be paid earlier the Association would be prepared to limit the period of payment before the fourth day.

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

In the case of wages paid on the monthly basis the period of 10 days should be permitted in which to make payments as this would afford a reasonable period in which to make preparation of pay-sheets. In cases where a basis of fortnightly payments has been established, a period of 5 days should be allowed. When wages are paid weekly a period of 3 days should be allowed. In the case of purely casual workers who are paid by the day for a day's work performed, payment should be made on the following day at the latest. This, of course, should not be made to apply to employees who, though working on a daily wage, are in effect permanently employed and are paid monthly, the daily wage being merely the basis of computing the monthly sum due. The real difference between these latter and those employees who are paid monthly for a month's work performed is that they are not generally in a position to claim a month's notice in the event of their services not being required. Moreover, any attempt to change the basis of payment in the case of these casual workers from a daily to a monthly one would undoubtedly be met with strong opposition from the employees themselves.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

The proposal to fix one week as the time limit within which the payment of wages due must be made, is considered reasonable. It should be laid down that wages shall be paid within 6 days after the close of the period

for which they are due and that Sundays and holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act should be reckoned as *dies non* in computing the statutory period of 6 days, otherwise it will not be practicable to comply with the requirements of the law if a succession of holidays should intervene immediately after the close of the period.

It is not considered that in respect of the time limit any distinction should be drawn between monthly wages and wages for a shorter period. In the great majority of cases wages are calculated and paid on a monthly basis but if, for any special reason, payment is to be made fortnightly or weekly the preparation of the pay-sheets and other formalities connected with the disbursement necessitate just as much time and labour as in the case of monthly wages and the margin allowed for payment should therefore be the same, otherwise employers would be put to unnecessary expense for additional clerical staff. The daily rated staff in regular employ who are paid by the month should be regarded as on the same footing as monthly rated employees. Workshop employees are usually engaged on a daily rate of pay but their wages are disbursed monthly as long as they are in regular employ. The service of such employees in the Port Trust is recorded in Service Registers and they are entitled to certain of the privileges of the permanent staff, *e.g.*, provident fund and casual leave. It would be impossible to grant such privileges if their wages were not disbursed monthly and any change in the present system would undoubtedly be resented by the employees themselves as likely to prejudice the security of tenure of their employment.

The Karachi Port Trust

The question of enforcing the payment of wages at an earlier date than has been customary in the past in the case of workers on monthly rates of pay is approved. The system of paying daily wages labour at the end of each month or weekly should not be disturbed.

The Port employ at present (1) men on monthly pay, paid monthly, (2) men on daily rated pay but also paid monthly and (3) men on daily wages who are paid weekly. In the case of (1) and (2) some of the men receive their pay between the 8th and the 11th of the month following that in which the wages are earned and the Board is prepared to make arrangements and engage the staff required to enable payment being made within a week of the close of the month. The men referred to under (2) though rated on daily pay are practically permanent employees and it has been the custom for many years to pay on a monthly basis as this is convenient to both the Port Trust and the employees.

With regard to (3) the system is to pay the men weekly. This system has worked satisfactorily and no complaints have ever been received and enquiries made have elicited the information that it causes no hardship to the staff and men prefer to draw their pay in this manner instead of being paid on the lines now suggested by Government.

The Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay

In the case of monthly payments the period of payment would have to be extended to fourteen days or at least the tenth working day after the close of the month.

The Bombay Improvement Trust

The statutory limits to the time within which wages must be paid should however be fixed so as not to bear too heavily on employers due regard being had to the hardship caused to workers on account of delayed payments. It will be fair to fix a maximum period of one week in the case of monthly payments and of four days in the case of fortnightly payments. In the case of the Improvement Trust men employed on daily wages are paid fortnightly. It would be out of question to pay them daily or even weekly as the staff required would be prohibitive. The men appear to be quite content with fortnightly payments and it is not considered that legislation is required in the case of men on weekly and daily wages—the former probably being unknown.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The Central Labour Board

It is admissible that calculation of wages takes some time but factories are well-provided with record keepers, time keepers, pay masters and such other clerical staff who can very well dispose of the matter without much trouble to the smoothness of the working. Government should permit each industrial concern to fix its own statutory limits to the time within which wages must be paid and thereafter some deserving consideration may be allowed say five days over 30 days of the month and two days over 15 days in case the payments are fortnightly.

The Bombay Textile Labour Union

The limits should be a week in the case of monthly wages, four days in the case of fortnightly wages, two days in the case of weekly wages, but daily wages should be paid on the same day for which they are due.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Parbhadevi and Ghorupdeo)

It is the general practice in the Bombay mills that a month's wages should be paid two weeks after they are due, but there is no fixity regarding this time limit and in certain cases payment of the previous months are delayed even up to the 3rd week. Payment of the monthly wages should be made during the first week of the next month.

Ahmedabad Labour Union (In " Majur Sandesh ")

Seeing that it takes some time to calculate wages the mills should get some time for their convenience. It is not however proper to prolong the period of payment to several days after payment is due. The period ordinarily required for calculating pay should be fixed and allowed and it is necessary to abolish the present long delay. In Ahmedabad three to four days are more than sufficient for calculating wages. Therefore where payment is made fortnightly the law should allow three to four days' time in place of eight days.

STATUTORY LIMITS FOR WAGE PAYMENTS IN THE CASE OF PIECE WORKERS

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Chamber of Commerce

The suggestion that a percentage of the wages might be paid within the statutory period is not approved. Such a system might lay itself open to abuse by unscrupulous employers apart from the fact that it would almost certainly be regarded with grave suspicion by illiterate workers and would lead to considerable misunderstanding. It would be most unwise to introduce any such system even if it were found to be workable. So many exemptions will have to be granted that it would be preferable to fix the period at 15 days as suggested.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The suggestion to pay out 75 per cent. or any other percentage other than the full wage due, is likely to assist matters much. If a period must be fixed, it is considered that two weeks should be the practical minimum, and special cases should be allowed on application to the local Government.

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber agrees to the proposal that 75 per cent. of wages should be made payable within the statutory period in cases where piece-rates wages involve intricate calculations. Strict regulations, however, would be necessary to govern cases in which this percentage payment is permitted, as otherwise there would be a danger of the employer delaying final adjustment in order to be able to hold the remaining 25 per cent. as a deposit.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

The payment of the 75 per cent. of wages due where payment is to be made within the statutory period in cases where intricate calculations or evaluations are involved appears reasonable.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bombay European Textile Association

(With reference only to the textile industry in Bombay)

The difficulties in connexion with the calculation of wages on piece work rates are very real. About 80 per cent. of the wages in a Bombay cotton mill are paid on piece work, and as a consequence, to attempt to meet this difficulty as suggested by Government would be not only very difficult for the employer, but would be strongly resented by the work-people. It would perhaps be well for Government to appreciate that owing to the attendance of operatives being so very irregular, any departure from the present system of monthly payment would be extremely difficult for all concerned.

DATES ON WHICH PERIODS FOR WHICH PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE SHOULD BEGIN AND END

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The employer should be empowered to fix the date upon which he elects to begin and close the month.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

It is necessary that employers should be allowed to fix the date on which for purposes of calculation of wages, the month should commence and end. This will be most necessary in the case of employers whose staff is divided into a number of departments or sections spread over a large area and have to be paid on separate paysheets. In administrations such as the Port Trust this necessitates the continuous payment of wages from the 1st to the 15th of each month, according to a fixed programme. It would be impracticable to prepare and disburse all the paysheets within a week without considerably augmenting the clerical and cash staff, but the difficulty can be overcome by fixing different dates for the commencement and end of the official month for the different classes or sections of employees. This would be merely a matter of internal organisation and would not affect the employees and it therefore appears unnecessary to provide that the sanction of Government should be obtained to such arrangements.

The Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay

It will be necessary, in the case of the Bombay Municipality, to fix different dates for the ending of the monthly pay periods of the several departments.

THE QUESTION OF INCLUDING BONUSES WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE LEGISLATION

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

Payments of bonuses and similar payments made in addition to ordinary wages, should not be included within the scope of the legislation especially where these payments are made entirely at the option of the employer, and are generally dependent upon the amount of profit earned.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

Special pay of the nature of bonuses, overtime, etc., should be excluded from the operation of the proposed legislation or, if considered preferable, the Local Government should be given authority to grant exemptions in such cases.

LIMITATION OF WAGES TO PAYMENTS IN CASH

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

Payment of wages in kind should be discouraged and such payments should in any case be strictly limited to foodstuffs, and rental, provided the employer is the owner of the workers' place of residence.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The Central Labour Board

Payments of wages must be made in cash. Any other system entails other different kinds of hardships.

DISPOSAL OF FINES INFLICTED UNDER THE ACT

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

The suggestion that a portion of the fines might be allocated to the workmen injured, should certainly not be adopted as the division of money among the workmen affected, in proportion to the degree of injury, would probably be so difficult as to render the proposal unworkable.

POWER TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO GRANT EXEMPTIONS

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

Special extensions of the statutory limits will be necessary for concerns which employ labour at some distance from headquarters as is universal in the Railways and is very common in Engineering concerns generally.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

It is considered necessary that powers should be reserved to Local Governments to exempt such administrations and concerns as can satisfy the Local Government that their system of payment of wages is regular and involves no hardships to their employees.

ADVISABILITY OF LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR SHORTER PERIODS OF WAGE PAYMENTS

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Chamber of Commerce

Any attempt to impose by legislation a radically different system than that in use would have little chance of success and might do considerable harm.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The Federation is very strongly of opinion that any attempt to enforce fortnightly or shorter periods of payments would meet with very strong opposition not only of the employers but of the workers themselves.

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

The monthly basis of payment is by far the most suitable to conditions in India.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Bombay Port Trust

It is not considered that the enforcement by law of a shorter period of payment than monthly would be either desirable or practicable.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The Social Service League

The League would have recommended the compulsory system of weekly payments where monthly or fortnightly payments are in vogue at present, but for the opposition of some workers and also of many of their well-wishers on certain grounds. The League has every hope that public opinion among workers will soon be unanimous for weekly payment of wages.

The Central Labour Board

The Board is not in a position to say how far weekly payments of wages can do good to workers.

The Bombay Textile Labour Union

In the opinion of the Committee the real remedy of checking the abuses connected with late payments of wages lies in enacting a legislation making payments of wages fortnightly or weekly. The Committee is aware that a part of the opposition to the Weekly Payments Bill of Mr. Chaman Lall had come from some workers, but it feels confident that if the advantages accruing from a weekly system of wage payments and the disadvantages of the system of monthly payment had been fully explained to the workers, they would have withdrawn their opposition and agreed to the system of payments for shorter periods.

The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

If the employers are compelled by legislation to pay their employees every week, the Sabha is confident that it will be regarded as a boon by the workers. Payment of weekly wages may not be regarded at the outset popularly by the workers, but in the course of time as education and provident habits increase in their midst this innovation will no doubt prove extremely beneficial to them.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Parbhadevi and Ghorupdeo)

It is the opinion of the Union that the monthly system of wages is more advantageous to the majority of workers, provided that the work in connexion with the actual payment of wages at long intervals after they

become due is set aright. The monthly wage system appears to be the best for cotton mill workers in Bombay.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bombay European Textile Association

(With reference only to textile industry in Bombay)

The Association had approved of the fortnightly payment of wages and when their members were instructed by their respective employers to persuade the operatives employed under them to accept this system, they were in almost every case informed by the operatives themselves, that any departure from the present monthly system would be detrimental to their interests. The many advantages to be gained by fortnightly payment with special reference to the question of payment against loans, having less money at any particular time to spend on intoxicating drinks and so forth, were pointed out to the operatives. To all these points the operatives replied that they emphatically refuse to accept any change from the present system, and any attempt to change would be met by a strike.

FORFEITURE OF AND WITHHOLDING OF WAGES

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Ahmedabad Millowners' Association

According to the system in vogue in Ahmedabad mills those employees who fail to put in full seven days' service are not entitled to draw their wages on the pay day or thereafter until they have completed full seven days' service and the Association strongly objects to any departure being made from this practice.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Social Service League, Bombay

In some mills in Bombay the discharged employees are not paid there and then the wages due to them for the work done by them up to date, but are asked to wait till the next pay-day, and if they want their wages immediately paid off they have to pay some commission by way of discount. This is called the *Havala* system. This system is unfair to the workmen and should not be tolerated. When a month's previous notice has been given or received by the employer, there is no reason why the employee should have to pay any commission for securing his wages for the work already done by him. Not unoften the workman who has been discharged or has given notice to leave has to leave for his native place and it is cruel to ask him to wait till the usual pay-day. Naturally he prefers to pay commission for getting his wages immediately to staying in Bombay without employment for a fortnight or so. Still it will be a hardship to him even when the waiting period is reduced to a week, as contemplated in the proposed legislation. Government should give this matter their consideration.

In some mills and factories the employees are given to understand by notices that the wages due to them would be forfeited if not claimed within

six months and on this score a number of employees are deprived of their wages when they are claimed after the expiry of six months and even when that period has not expired the workmen are asked to present themselves on fixed days, which, on account of the employment accepted elsewhere, are inconvenient to the workmen concerned, who have sometimes to lose wages for more than a day for presenting themselves at the place of their last employment for receiving wages. When a person has suddenly to leave for his native place owing to sickness or domestic difficulties and is not able to return within six months generally he has to lose his wages that may be due to him, having been given to understand by the employer that his claim is time-barred. Almost all the mills in Bombay save each a large amount annually in the form of " unclaimed wages " the real fact being that the wages are not unclaimed but unpaid though claimed. It should be made illegal for the employers to deprive employees of the wages due to them and also to create an impression among the employees by pasting notices, etc., that wages would be forfeited after the lapse of a certain period. This would, the League believes, considerably reduce the amounts of " unclaimed wages."

Bombay Textile Labour Union

In some cotton textile mills in Bombay the workers who are discharged or leave the service in the middle of the month, are not paid immediately for the days for which they have worked in the mills but are asked to come on the next pay-day which means a good deal of delay. Such delays should also be covered by the proposed legislation.

Another point is that there is a practice prevailing in many cotton textile mills in Bombay that the wages claimed after a certain period which varies from three to six or even more months are forfeited. There are occasions such as continued illness or other domestic difficulties on account of which the workers cannot claim their wages earlier ; but it is only fair that they should get them as soon as they are in a position to claim them. It would be well if such forfeiture of wages which is more than the delays in getting the wages, is prohibited under the new measure.

Ahmedabad Labour Union in their paper " Majur Sandesh "

Several instances have occurred in the Ahmedabad mills of unjust forfeitures of wages due. In any legislation created for prompt payment of wages, it should also be laid down that it is illegal to forfeit wages.

NECESSITY FOR PROVIDING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES AMONGST WORKERS

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Karachi Indian Merchants' Association

To save workmen from the extortions of the money-lender, loans should be advanced to them through the medium of rural or urban co-operative banks on the employers undertaking to repay the loan by small deductions from the pay of the labourers. In deserving cases and in cases of employees having seven years' service or more, interest on such loans may be borne by the employer.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

Bombay European Textile Association

(With reference only to the textile industry in Bombay)

In the proposed legislation every facility is to be given to the operatives to prosecute his employer and it is suggested that defaulting employers should be fined. The Association concurs with the suggestion provided that similar legislation is proposed whereby the employer may prosecute the operative for leaving the service of the mill without notice and leaving the employer to his own resources to find a suitable substitute. This is particularly mentioned because there are many operatives who do this kind of thing and then apply to the courts for payments of wages earned and without exception, the court passes judgment in their favour.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Bombay Millowners' Association

The Association is always anxious to support legislation calculated to ameliorate the condition of the labouring classes provided such legislation is framed on sound lines with due regard to the needs and requirements of the country and of the different industries, to be affected by such legislation. The Committee of the Association note with keen regret a tendency on the part of Government to impose on industries legislation for which there would appear to be little or no justification, and which is further calculated to inflict on employers difficulties of a serious nature without any appreciable advantages to the workpeople. The proposals outlined in the Government of India letter afford an illustration of the statement made. The Committee hope that in future Government before deciding to launch upon legislation of this type will first gather exact information from the different industries to enable them to judge whether there is any necessity for legislation, and in all cases, before coming to any decision, they will show due appreciation of the difficulties likely to be entailed on employers by that decision.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

The Federation would like to put forward a very strong protest against any further legislation affecting labour at present. There seems to be an impression that Indian labour is " defenceless " and it should be pointed out that with his agricultural resources always behind him, the Indian labourer is really more independent than the worker in any other country. This country must learn to walk before it can run and more harm than good is done by the premature introduction of legislation of this nature which is introduced in order to bring Indian labour conditions into line with conditions prevailing in European countries without due consideration to the very different standards of Education, living, etc., which exist and will exist always.

Trade Unions Act, 1926

Draft Regulations for the Bombay Presidency

The Bill to provide for the registration of Trade Unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered Trade Unions in British India was passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 8th February and by the Council of State on the 25th February 1926 and received the assent of the Governor General on the 25th March 1926. A copy of the Act was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for February 1926. In October 1926, the Government of India asked all Local Governments to make regulations as prescribed by the Act. The following is a copy of the draft regulations prepared by the Government of Bombay and the prefatory note published in the issue of the *Bombay Government Gazette* dated the 3rd February 1927.

No. 6377.—The following draft regulations which it is proposed to make in exercise of the powers conferred by section 29 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (XVI of 1926), are published as required by section 30 of the said Act for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is hereby given that the said draft will be taken into consideration by the Governor in Council on or after the 5th May 1927.

2. Any objections or suggestions which may be sent to the Secretary to Government, General Department, by any person with respect to the draft before the date aforesaid will be considered by the Governor in Council.

Draft Regulations

1. *Short title.*—These regulations may be called the Bombay Trade Unions Regulations, 1927.

2. *Definitions.*—In these regulations—

(*a*) ' the Act ' means the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 ;

(*b*) ' Form ' means a form appended to these regulations ;

(*c*) ' Section ' means a section of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.

Registration

3. *Form of application for registration.*—Every application for registration of a Trade Union shall be made in Form A.

4. *Restrictions on name.*—The Registrar shall not register a Trade Union under a name identical with that of any other existing Trade Union known to him, whether registered or not registered, or so nearly resembling such name as to be likely to deceive the public or the members of either Trade Union until such time as the persons applying for registration alter the name of the Trade Union stated in the application.

5. *Evidence to prove authority to make application.*—Upon an application for the registration of a Trade Union which has been in existence, the Registrar may require from the applicants such evidence as may seem to him necessary to show that the applicants have been duly authorised to make the application on behalf of the Trade Union.

6. *Form of register.*—The register of Trade Unions referred to in section 8 shall be maintained in Form B.

7. *Form of certificate.*—The certificate of registration issued by the Registrar under section 9 shall be in Form C.

8. *Fee for certificate.*—The fee payable for the certificate of registration of a Trade Union shall be Rs. 5.

Withdrawal or Cancellation of Certificate of Registration

9. *Form of application for withdrawal or cancellation.*—Every application by a Trade Union for withdrawal or cancellation of its certificate of registration shall be sent to the Registrar in Form D.

10. *Verification of application.*—The Registrar on receiving an application for withdrawal or cancellation of registration shall, before granting the application, verify that the application was approved in a general meeting of the Trade Union, or if it was not so approved, that it has the approval of a majority of the members of the Trade Union. For this purpose the Registrar may call for such further particulars as he may deem necessary and may examine any officer of the Union.

11. *Appeals.*—Any appeal made under sub-section (*1*) of section 11 shall be filed within sixty days of the date on which the Registrar passed the order against which the appeal is made.

12. *Change of address of Head Office of a Trade Union.*—Notice of any change in the address of the head office of a Trade Union shall be given to the Registrar in Form G and the changed address shall be recorded by the Registrar in the register under regulation 6.

13. *Transfer of Head Office of a Registered Union from one province to another province.*—(1) The Registrar, on receipt of a notice of removal of the registered office of a Trade Union to another province, shall forward to the Registrar of the province to which the head office of the Trade Union has been transferred a copy of all the entries contained in the register prescribed by regulation 6.

(2) The Registrar, on receipt from the Registrar of another province of a copy of the entries contained in the register under section 8 in respect of a Trade Union the head office of which has been transferred to Bombay, shall enter the entries in his register and notify the fact to the Secretary of the Trade Union.

14. *Alteration of rules.*—(1) On receiving a copy of any alteration made in the rules of a Trade Union under sub-section (*3*) of section 28, the Registrar shall, unless he has reason to believe that the alteration has not been made in the manner provided by the rules of the Trade Union or unless the alteration is not in accordance with the provisions of the Act, register the alteration in a register to be maintained for this purpose and shall notify the fact that he has done so to the Secretary of the Trade Union.

(2) The fee payable for registration of alterations of rules shall be Re. 1 for each set of alterations made simultaneously.

15. *Change of name.*—The notice of any change of the name of a Trade Union shall be sent to the Registrar in Form E.

16. *Amalgamation of Trade Unions.*—No registered Trade Union can amalgamate with one or more Trade Unions which are not registered. If a registered Trade Union desires amalgamation with one or more unregistered

Trade Union or Trade Unions, such unregistered Trade Union or Trade Unions must be duly registered in accordance with the requirements of the Act before an amalgamation can be effected.

17. *Form of notice.*—Notice of every amalgamation shall be sent to the Registrar in duplicate in Form F.

18. *Dissolution of registered Trade Unions.*—When a registered Trade Union is dissolved, notice of the dissolution shall be sent to the Registrar in Form H.

19. *Division of funds.*—Where it is necessary for the Registrar, under sub-section (*2*) of section 27, to distribute the funds of a registered Trade Union which has been dissolved, he shall divide the fund among the members in proportion to the amounts contributed by them by way of subscription during their membership.

20. *Annual returns.*—The general statement to be furnished under section 28 shall be submitted to the Registrar by the 31st day of October in each year and shall be in Form I.

21. *Audit.*—(1) Save as provided in sub-regulations (2), (3), (4) and (5) of this regulation the annual audit of the accounts of any registered Trade Union shall be conducted by an auditor authorized to audit the accounts of companies under sub-section (*1*) of section 144 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

(2) Where the membership of a registered Trade Union did not at any time during the year ending on the 31st March exceed 2000, the annual audit of the accounts may be conducted—

(*a*) by an examiner of local fund accounts, or

(*b*) by any local fund auditor appointed by Government, or

(*c*) by any person who, having held an appointment under Government in any audit or accounts department, is in receipt of a pension of not less than Rs. 200 per mensem.

(3) Where the membership of a registered Trade Union did not at any time during the year ending on the 31st day of March exceed 600, the annual audit of the accounts may be conducted—

(*a*) by any two persons holding office as a magistrate or a judge or as a councillor of any municipality or member of a district local board, or of the local Legislative Council, or of the Legislative Assembly or Council of State ;

(*b*) by any person who, having held an appointment under Government in any audit or accounts department, is in receipt of a pension from Government of not less than Rs. 75 a month, or

(*c*) by any auditor appointed to conduct the audit of co-operative societies by Government or by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or by any Provincial co-operative organization recognized by Government for this purpose.

(4) Where the membership of a registered Trade Union did not at any time during the year ending on the 31st March exceed 200, the annual audit of the accounts may be conducted by any two members of such registered Trade Union.

(5) Where the registered Trade Union is a federation of registered Trade Unions, and the number of such Unions affiliated to it at any time

during the year ending on the 31st March did not exceed 50, 15 or 5 respectively, the audit of the accounts of the federation may be conducted as if it had not at any time during the year had a membership of more than 2000, 600 or 200 respectively.

22. *Disqualification of auditors.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in regulation 21, no person who at any time during the year for which the accounts are to be audited was entrusted with any part of the funds or securities belonging to a registered Trade Union shall be eligible to audit the accounts of that Union.

23. The auditor or auditors appointed in accordance with these regulations shall be given access to all the books of the registered Trade Union concerned and shall verify the general statement submitted under section 28 with the accounts and vouchers relating thereto and shall thereafter sign the auditor's declaration appended to Form I, indicating separately on that form under his signature or their signatures a statement showing in what respect he or they find the return to be incorrect, not supported by vouchers or not in accordance with the Act. The particulars given in the statement shall indicate—

(*a*) every payment which appears to be unauthorised by the rules of the registered Trade Union concerned, or contrary to the provisions of the Act,

(*b*) the amount of any deficit or loss which appears to have been incurred by the negligence or misconduct of any person,

(*c*) the amount of any sum which ought to have been but is not brought to account by any person.

24. *Audit of political fund.*—The audit of the political fund of a registered Trade Union shall be carried out along with the audit of the general account of the registered Trade Union by the same auditor or auditors.

25. *Inspection of register and documents.*—(1) The register of Trade Unions maintained in accordance with regulation 6 shall be open to inspection by any person on payment of a fee of annas eight.

(2) Any documents in the possession of the Registrar received from a registered Trade Union may be inspected by any member of that Union on payment of a fee of annas eight for each document inspected.

(3) Documents shall be open to inspection every day on which the office of the Registrar is open and within such hours as may be fixed for this purpose by the Registrar.

26. *Persons responsible for notices and returns.*—Unless the rules of a Trade Union specify otherwise the officer responsible for the submission of all applications, notices and returns to be made to the Registrar under the Act and these regulations shall be the Secretary of the Trade Union which submits the application, notice or return.

FORM A

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Application for Registration of Trade Unions

Name of Trade Union Address :

Dated the day of 19

1. This application is made by the persons whose names are subscribed at the foot hereof.

2. The name under which it is proposed that the Trade Union on behalf of which this application is made shall be registered is..... as set forth in Rule No.

To the best of our belief there is no other existing Trade Union, whether registered or not registered, the name of which is identical with the proposed name or so nearly resembles the same as to cause confusion.

3. The address of the Head Office of the Union to which all communications and notices may be addressed is.

4. The..... Union came into existence on the day of . . . 19

5. The Union is a union of employers workers engaged in the..... industry *or* profession *or*..... (establishment).

6. The particulars required by section 5 (1) (c) of the Trade Unions Act, 1926, are given in Schedule I.

7. The particulars given in Schedule II show the provision made in the rules for the matters detailed in section 6 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.

8. (To be struck out in the case of Unions which have not been in existence for one year before the date of application.) The particulars required by section 5 (2) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, are given in Schedule III.

9. One copy of the Rules of the Union, is attached to this application.

10. We have been duly authorised by the Trade-Union to make, this application on its behalf, such authorisation consisting of *

	Signature	Occupation	Address
(Signed) 1 ..			
2 ..			
3 ..			
4 ..			
5 ..			
6 ..			
7 ..			

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Bombay.

* If the Trade Union has been in operation before the date of the application, state here whether the authority to make this application was made by a " resolution of a general meeting of the Trade Union " or, if not, in what other way it was given.

FORM A

SCHEDULE I

Trade Unions Act, 1926

List of Officers

Name of Trade Union.

Office held in Union	Name	Age	Address	Occupation

SCHEDULE II

Reference to rules

The numbers of the rules making provision for the several matters detailed in column 1 are given in column 2 below :—

1 Matter	2 Number of rules
Name of Union.	
The whole of the objects for which the Union has been established.	
The whole of the purposes for which the general funds of the union shall be applicable.	
The maintenance of a list of members.	
The facilities provided for the inspection of the list of members by officers and members.	
The admission of ordinary members.	
The admission of honorary or temporary members.	
The conditions under which members are entitled to benefits assured by the rules.	
The conditions under which fines or forfeitures can be imposed or varied.	
The manner in which the rules shall be amended, varied or rescinded.	
The manner in which the members of the executive and the other officers of the union shall be appointed and removed.	
The safe custody of the funds.	
The annual audit of the accounts.	
The facilities for the inspection of the account books by officers and members.	
The manner in which the union may be dissolved.	

SCHEDULE III

(This need not be filled in if the Union came into existence less than one year before the date of application for registration)

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on the day of 19

Liabilities	Rs. a. p.	Assets	Rs. a. p.
Amount of general fund		Cash :—	
Amount of political fund		In hands of Treasurer	
		In hands of Secretary	
		In hands of	
Loans from—		In the Bank	
		In the Bank	
Debts due to		Securities as per list below.	
		Unpaid subscriptions due	
Other liabilities (to be specified)		Loans to—	
		Immoveable property	
		Goods and furniture	
		Other assets (to be specified)	
Total Liabilities ..		Total Assets	

List of Securities

Particulars	Face value	Cost-price	Market value	In hands of

(Signed) 1
2
3
4
5
6
7

FORM B

Name of Trade Union — Date of Registration

Registration Number — Number of application form — Remarks :—

Address of Head Office

Subsequent changes of the address of the Head Office—

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Names of Members making application—

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Officers (Transfers from one post to another count as relinquishment of appointment held).

Year of entering on office	Name	Office held in Union	Age on entry	Address	Occupation	Year of relinquishing Office	Other offices held in addition to membership of executive with dates

FORM C

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Certificate of Registration of Trade Union

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Office of the Registrar of Trade Unions :
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

It is hereby certified that the
Union has been registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, this day of 19

Seal

Registrar of Trade Unions
for the Bombay Presidency.

FORM D

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Request to withdraw or cancel Certificate of Registration

Name of Trade Union
Registration Number.

Address :

Dated the day of 19

To
The Registrar of Trade Unions, Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Bombay.

The abovementioned Trade Union desires that its certificate of registration under the Trade Unions Act, 1926, may be withdrawn (*or* cancelled) and at a general meeting* duly held on the day of 19 it was resolved as follows :—

(Here give exact copy of Resolution)

(Signed)

*If not at a genera meeting, state in what manner the request has been determined upon.

FORM E

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Application for Approval and Notice of Change of Name

Name of Trade Union already registered

Registration Number

Address :

Dated this day of 19

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

The provisions of section 25 of the Trade Unions Act having been complied with the undersigned desire that the name of the abovementioned Trade Union be changed to . The consent of the members was obtained by*

(Signed) 1 Secretary

2

3

4

5 } Members.

6

7

8

*i.e., by referendum, resolution of a general meeting, etc. If procedure followed is covered by rule quote number of the rule.

FORM F

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of Amalgamation of Trade Unions

A. Name of Registered Trade Union

Number of Registration

B. Name of Registered Trade Union

Number of Registration
(and so on if more than two).

Address :

Dated the day of 19

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the requirements of section 24 of the abovementioned Act the members of each (or every one) of the abovementioned Trade Unions have resolved to become amalgamated together as one Trade Union.

And that the following are the terms of the said amalgamation (*state the terms*).

And that it is intended that the Trade Union shall henceforth be called the

Accompanying this notice is a copy of the rules intended to be henceforth adopted by the Amalgamated Trade Union which are the rules (if so) of the Union.

(To be signed by seven members and the Secretary of each Trade Union.)

Name and address to which registered copy is to be sent.

(Signed) 1 Secretary.
2
3
4
5 Members.
6
7
8

FORM G

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of change of address of the head office of a Registered Trade Union

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Address :

Dated this day of 19

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions, Bombay Presidency,

Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that the registered office of the abovementioned Trade Union has been removed from and is now situated at in City (*or* town, *or* District).

(Signed)

Secretary.

This part to be detached by the Registrar when the notice is registered, and returned to the Trade Union.

Received this day of 19 notice of removal of the registered office of the Register No. to City (*or* town, *or* District).

(Signed)

Registrar of Trade Unions
for the Bombay Presidency.

Seal

FORM H

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of the Dissolution of a Trade Union

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Address :

Dated this day of 19

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that the abovementioned Trade Union was dissolved in pursuance of the rules thereof on the day of 19 .

We have been duly authorised by the Union to foward this notice on its behalf, such authorisation consisting of a resolution passed at a general meeting on the* day of 19

(Signed) 1 Secretary.

2

3

4

5 Members.

6

7

8

* Here insert the date, or if there was no such resolution, state in what other way the authorisation was given.

FORM I

Annual Return prescribed under section 28 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, for the year ending 31st March 19

Name of Union

Registered Head Office

Number of certificate of registration

Return to be made by federations of trade unions.

A. Number of unions affiliated at beginning of year*

B. Number of unions joining during year*

C. Number of unions disaffiliated during year*

D. Number of unions affiliated at end of year

This return need not be made by federations of trade unions.

Number of members on books at the beginning of year

Number of members admitted during the year (add)

Together

Number of members who left during the year (deduct)

Total number of members on books at the end of the year

Males.

Females.

Number of members contributing to Political Fund.

A copy of the rules of the Trade Union corrected up to the date of despatch of this return is appended.

Dated the

Secretary.

* The names of the affiliated and disaffiliated unions should be given in separate statements marked "A," "B" and "C."

FORM I—*contd.*

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on the day of 19

Liabilities	Rs. a. p.	Assets	Rs. a. p.
Amount of general fund ..		Cash—	
Amount of political fund ..		In hands of Treasurer ..	
Loans from—		In hands of Secretary ..	
		In hands of ..	
		In the Bank ..	
		In the Bank ..	
Debts due to— ..		Securities as per list below	
		Unpaid subscriptions due	
		Loans to—	
Other liabilities (to be specified)			
		Immoveable property ..	
		Goods and furniture ..	
		Other assets (to be specified)	
Total liabilities ..		Total assets ..	

List of Securities

Particulars	Face value	Cost price	Market price at date on which accounts have been made up	In hands of

Treasurer.

FORM I—*contd.*

General Fund Account

Income	Rs. a. p.	Expenditure	Rs. a. p.
Balance at beginning of year		Salaries, allowances and expenses of officers ..	
Contributions from members at per member..		Salaries, allowances and expenses of establishment	
Donations		Auditors' Fees ..	
Sale of periodicals, books, rules, etc.		Legal expenses ..	
Interest on investments ..		Expenses in conducting trade disputes ..	
Income from miscellaneous sources (to be specified)..		Compensation paid to members for loss arising out of trade disputes ..	
		Funeral, old age, sickness, unemployment benefits, etc.	
		Educational, social and religious benefits ..	
		Cost of publishing periodicals	
		Rents, rates and taxes ..	
		Stationery, printing and postage	
		Expenses incurred under section 15 (*j*) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (to be specified)	
		Other expenses (to be specified).. ..	
		Balance at end of year ..	
Total ..		Total ..	

Political Fund Account

	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Balance at beginning of year		Payments made on objects specified in section 16 (2) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (to be specified) ..	
Contributions from members at per member		Expenses of management (to be fully specified)..	
		Balance at end of year ..	
Total ..		Total ..	

Treasurer.

FORM I—*contd.*

Auditor's Declaration

The undersigned, having had access to all the books and accounts of the Trade Union, and having examined the foregoing statements and verified the same with the account vouchers relating thereto, now sign the same as found to be correct, duly vouched and in accordance with the law, subject to the remarks, if any, appended hereto.

Auditor

Auditor

The following changes of officers have been made during the year :—

Officers Relinquishing Office

Name	Office	Date of relinquishing office

Officers appointed

Name	Date of birth	Private address	Personal occupation	Title of position held in union	Date on which appointment in column 5 was taken up	Other offices held in addition to membership of executive with dates
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Secretary.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 9, (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Trade Unionism and Industrial Peace, by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 387-389.
(2) *Trade Unionism under Attack, by Walter M. Citrine, (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress).* pp. 390-393.
(3) *Banks and Cotton Mills, by T. H. Richardson.* pp. 394 and 395.
(4) *The Problems of Italian Foreign Policy Today, by Professor Gaetano Salvemini.* pp. 396-398.
(5) *Memories and Reflections, by "Propagandist."* pp. 399-401
(6) *International Adult Education, by W. H. Marwick.* pp. 402 and 403.
(7) *The Real Lesson of the Coal Dispute, by Charles Roden Buxton.* p. 404.
(8) *Fordism and the Future, by R. M. Fox.* pp. 405 and 406.
(9) *In the "Eight-fifteen", by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 412 and 413.
(10) *Public Opinion and the National Strike, by Harold J. Laski.* pp. 414 and 415.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 97, JANUARY 1927. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *First Impressions of America, by Robert R. Hyde.* pp. 3 and 4.
(2) *Medicine and Industry, by Leonard P. Lockhart, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab), Medical Officer.* pp. 7-9.
(3) *Voluntary Effort and the "House" Club.* pp. 10-12.
(4) *Welfare in the Boot and Shoe Industry.* pp. 13-16.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 1. JANUARY 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles : (1) *An Experimental Study of Diathermy, by Robert C. Lonergan, M.D., (Resident Teaching Fellow, Harvard Medical School, Department of Orthopedic Surgery)*—Apparatus ; observations—on non-living tissue, on living tissue ; comments. pp. 1-11.
(2) *Preventive Medicine in Industry : Experience of a Western Mail Order House, by C. O. Sappington, M.D., Dr. Ph. (Medical Director, Montgomery Ward and Company, Oakland, Calif.)*—Standards of examination ; results of examination ; preventive programme discussion and prospect. pp. 12-17.
(3) *Moisture as an Etiologic Factor in Industrial Infections, by C. W. Goff, M.D., (Cheney Brothers, South Manchester, Conn.)*—Discussion ; conclusion. pp. 18-20.
(4) *Results of Removal of Dental Focal Infections, by R. J. DeMotte, M.D., and Ernest Goldhorn, D.D.S. (Chicago, Ill.)* pp. 22-25.
(5) Masks and Respirators for Protection against Dusts and Fumes, by J. B. Barreto, Phillip Drinker, Jane L. Finn and R. M. Thomson. (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)—Introduction ; dusts, fumes, and smokes defined ; principles of the gas mask and of the mask for dusts and fumes ; various masks described—United States army mask, model 1919, pig snout respirators, burrell dust mask ; cotton fabric masks, headpieces and accessories ; test suspensions—differences in dispersion, comparative plugging properties, tyndallmeter method ; effect of leakage, data on comparative tests ; resistance to breathing and the filtering area ; summary. pp. 26-40.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 12, DECEMBER 1926. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Coal Mining Dispute in Great Britain.* pp. 1193-1194.
(2) *Minimum Wages for Women in Quebec*—Board issues first order, governing laundries, dyeworks, etc., in Montreal and district. p. 1195.
(3) *Annual Report of British Ministry of Labour.*—Industrial relations ; employment ; unemployment insurance ; trade boards ; labour statistics ; international labour division ; training of the unemployed ; temporary functions arising out of the war. pp. 1196 and 1197
(4) *Imperial Conference and State-Aided Empire Settlement.* pp. 1198 and 1199.
(5) *Alberta Federation of Labour : Summary of Proceedings of the Eleventh Convention held in Calgary.*—Workmen's compensation ; mines act ; minimum wages ; other legislation ; resolutions ; pp. 1206-1208.
(6) *Occupational Diseases.*—Reference manual published by the Department of Health of Ontario—Reporting of occupational diseases, compensation of occupational diseases, diagnosis of diseases, harmful substances and conditions ; the special disease hazards of occupation— . pp. 1216-1218.

(7) *Union Wages and Hours of Labour in the United States.* pp. 1239 and 1240.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIII, NO. 3. SEPTEMBER 1926 (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Co-operative Home Ownership in the United States.*—Types of dwellings provided; groups undertaking co-operative housing; cost of co-operative dwellings; ownership; cost of property owned. pp. 1-6.

(2) *Labor Productivity and Labor Costs in Cotton Manufacturing.*—Manufacturing processes; production of yarn; production of cloth; finishing department; summary; difficulties of survey, details of yarn production; details of cloth production; details of cloth finishing. pp. 7-18.

(3) *Extent of Primary Poverty in England, 1913 and 1924.* pp. 21-25.

(4) *Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the International Labor Conference.*—Eighth session—inspection of emigrants; ninth session—seamen. pp. 27 and 28.

(5) *Final Report on Benzol Poisoning of National Safety Council Committee.*—Poisonous effects of benzol—acute benzol poisoning, chronic benzol poisoning; extent of the hazard and conditions in factories using benzol; extent of early benzol poisoning under different working conditions, protective measures. pp. 39-44.

(6) *Co-operation in foreign countries.*—Belgium; Bulgaria; Finland; Netherlands; Norway, Poland; Russia; Sweden. pp. 56-61.

(7) *Profit Sharing and Labor Copartnership in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1925.*—Types of schemes and bonuses paid; schemes discontinued in 1925; trend of profit sharing movement; pp. 62-64.

(8) *Report on Outdoor Recreation for Industrial Workers.* pp. 65 and 66.

(9) *Wages and Hours of Labor in the Blast-Furnace, Open-Hearth, and Bar-Mill Departments of the Iron and Steel Industry,* 1926. pp. 75-92.

(10) *Changes in Union Scale of Wages and Hours of Labor* 1913-1926. pp. 92-114.

(11) *Earnings and Hours in the Pottery, Brick, Glass, and Other Industries.*—Average weekly earnings; normal weekly hours of labor; hours actually worked and average hourly earnings; extent of short time. pp. 117-121.

(12) *Eight Hour Act for the English Coal-Mining Industry.* pp. 121 and 122.

(13) *Trend of Salaries and Wages in Sweden,* 1913 *to* 1925. pp. 122 and 123.

(14) *Wholesale Prices in the United States and in Foreign Countries,* 1913 *to June* 1926. pp. 172-174.

(15) *Review of Labor Agreements of* 1925. pp. 178-180.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIV, NO. 5. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles: (1) *The Constitutionality of Labour Legislation in the United States of America: I. by William Gorham Rice, Jr. (Law School, University of Winconsins, U. S. A.).*—Judicial supremacy: the conflict between the United States and the States—(*a*) laws relating to workmen's injuries (*b*) child labour laws; the conflict between State and individual—(*a*) prohibition and licensing (*b*) incidents of employment other than wages. pp. 619-639.

(2) *The Conciliation and Arbitration of Industrial Disputes: I. The Nature of Conciliation and Arbitration.*—The nature and importance of industrial disputes—the importance of industrial disputes, the nature of industrial unrest; the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes—(1) the nature of conciliation, (2) the nature of enquiry, (3) the nature of arbitration, (4) wage determination. pp. 640-659.

(3) *Collective Labour Agreements in Italian Agriculture: I.*—General conditions—farming in Italy, types of farm and corresponding categories of workers; legal theory and history of agricultural labour contracts—legal nature of the various forms of contract, the history of agricultural collective labour agreements; guarantees for the observance of contracts. pp. 660-685.

(4) *Unemployment in Russia,* 1917-1925.—Unemployment during the communist period; rural overpopulation and the problem of unemployment; the growth of unemployment after the introduction of the new economic policy; unemployment to-day; the future. pp. 686-711.

(5) *Sickness Insurance in Palestine.*—The problem of sickness insurance; establishment of voluntary sickness fund—organisation, membership, members' contributions, benefits, organisation of medical service, income and expenditure, other activities. pp. 720-725.

(6) *Apprenticeship in Japanese Factories.*—Legislation—legal provisions, penalties; statistics; conditions of apprenticeship. pp. 725-728.

(7) *Native Labour in Kenya.*—Labour supply and demand; recruiting; wages; health; inspection; compulsory labour. pp. 728-731.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

At the beginning of December about 450,000 workpeople in the coalmining industry continued to be involved in the stoppage of work which began on 1st May. During the first three weeks of December the majority of these workpeople resumed work, the date of resumption varying in different cases. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about three million in December, making a total of nearly 146 million days lost during the whole period of the stoppage.

Apart from the coalmining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as in progress in December, was 15. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 3,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in December was about 14,000 working days.

During the whole of 1926, 313 disputes causing a stoppage of work were reported to the Department. These disputes involved about $2\frac{3}{4}$ million workpeople in a loss of nearly 163 million working days. Almost the whole of this loss was due to the coalmining dispute and the general strike. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, January 1927.*)

* * * * * *

At 1st January the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 75 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 79 per cent. a month earlier and 75 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the average percentage increase over the prewar level declined from 69 per cent. at 1st December to 67 per cent. at 1st January, but the greater part of the decline in the general average was due to the reductions in the prices of coal during December. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, January 1927.*)

* * * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

Statistics recently issued by the National Insurance Office of Germany show that in the year 1924, 80,920 persons suffered accidents entitling them to compensation, against 76,728 in the preceding year: the increase affecting both men and women workers. Most of the accidents to women workers take place in agriculture, where there were 10,800 cases, against 2,600 in industry. In industry, most accidents occur to women engaged in the metal industry; then come the chemical industry, the printing industry, the building industry, the textile trades, the food, drink and tobacco trades, commerce and communications etc. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, January 6, 1927.*)

By the promulgation of the Labour Courts Act of 23rd December 1926, which comes into force on 1st July 1927, jurisdiction in labour matters in Germany has been reorganised and placed on a uniform basis.

Hitherto the labour tribunals have been the Trade Courts, the Merchants' Courts, the Guild Arbitration Tribunals and the Labour Chambers of the Conciliation Boards.

The Trade Courts consisted of the communal trade courts and the State trade courts in the Rhineland. The last named are purely autonomous bodies, entirely unconnected with the Department of Justice. The Trade and Merchants' Courts outside the Rhineland are communal institutions, and they also have no connection with the Department of Justice. The Guild Arbitration Tribunals are internal institutions of the various craft guilds. The presidents must not be ordinary judges and need not possess qualification for judicial office. They are appointed by the communal administration and the economic interests concerned.

All these tribunals will be replaced by the new Labour Courts, which are not to be under the State or communal administration, but under the State Department of Justice.

According to a declaration by Mr. Sitzler, Ministerial Director, 800 tribunals are being created, for which an expenditure of 2,000,000 marks will be required. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 24, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

The Colombia Chamber of Representatives recently adopted on second reading a Bill concerning the weekly rest which had already been approved by the Senate.

The Chamber dealt in the course of its last session with the cost of living, and passed an Act authorising, under special conditions, the entry into the country of certain foodstuffs.

Legislation was passed relating to the protection of children and the regulation of women's work in industrial undertakings.

The Chamber also adopted a Waste Land Act, according to which unemployed workers in the big towns who wish to acquire land are to receive small lots of waste land, agricultural implements, seeds, and a subsidy of 300 *pesos* to enable them to begin work on the land. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 24, 1927.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JANUARY 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. The Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill, Barsi.	684	...	2 Jan.	11 Jan.	The stoppage of the extra allowances of 35 per cent. and 30 per cent. to piece and time workers respectively.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Viramgaum Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Viramgaum.	250	...	10 Jan.	20 Jan.	Proposal to reduce rates.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Madhowji Dharamsi Mill, Foras Road, Bombay.	18	...	11 Jan.	19 Jan.	Reduction of Staff.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
4. The Emperor Edward Mill, Reay Road, Mazagon, Bombay.	692	2,273	16 Jan.	...	Alleged reduction in the rates of wages.	No settlement reported.
5. The Rajpur Mills, Co., Ltd., Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.	85	...	17 Jan.	18 Jan.	Damaged cloth given in lieu of wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of December			9 months ended December		
		1925	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	.. ,, ..	6,638	4,428	7,485	50,520	44,406	63,285
Nos. 11 to 20	.. ,, ..	21,005	13,463	20,519	164,333	140,765	169,165
Nos. 21 to 30	.. ,, ..	14,047	9,004	13,361	119,426	99,665	127,904
Nos. 31 to 40	.. ,, ..	1,217	1,059	1,532	11,244	9,381	15,072
Above 40	.. ,, ..	562	479	965	4,028	3,508	7,844
Waste, etc.	.. ,, ..	10	72	106	96	369	942
	Total ..	43,479	28,505	43,968	349,647	298,094	384,212

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	.. ,, ..	5,937	3,408	6,528	44,623	37,455	55,972
Nos. 11 to 20	.. ,, ..	14,809	6,319	14,017	112,700	79,803	115,287
Nos. 21 to 30	.. ,, ..	8,638	3,981	7,702	73,815	54,710	77,766
Nos. 31 to 40	.. ,, ..	694	338	767	6,275	3,981	6,953
Above 40	.. ,, ..	370	179	353	2,378	1,678	3,008
Waste etc.	.. ,, ..	3	63	96	25	290	856
	Total ..	30,451	14,288	29,463	239,816	177,917	259,842

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	.. ,, ..	232	352	273	1,843	2,267	1,954
Nos. 11 to 20	.. ,, ..	2,991	3,784	3,354	27,643	33,906	29,149
Nos. 21 to 30	.. ,, ..	4,245	3,757	4,274	34,385	34,642	36,748
Nos. 31 to 40	.. ,, ..	404	622	635	3,708	4,011	6,484
Above 40	.. ,, ..	149	227	454	1,249	1,277	3,677
Waste, etc.	.. ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	8,021	8,742	8,990	68,828	76,103	78,012

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of December			9 months ended December		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,, ..	1,906	986	3,011	12,267	10,124	16,495
Chudders ,, ..	1,453	1,001	1,523	12,659	13,272	14,288
Dhoties ,, ..	5,756	5,968	7,668	53,332	57,777	67,643
Drills and jeans ,, ..	1,020	474	1,278	8,561	6,637	9,210
Cambrics and lawns ,, ..	23	84	38	504	448	265
Printers ,, ..	444	243	175	3,087	2,111	1,413
Shirtings and long cloth ,, ..	9,011	6,347	7,711	73,261	69,433	83,292
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ,, ..	1,021	818	1,587	9,209	8,991	12,094
Tent cloth ,, ..	239	115	295	1,635	1,183	1,035
Other sorts ,, ..	598	522	439	4,729	4,306	3,892
Total ,, ..	21,471	16,558	23,725	179,244	174,282	209,627
Coloured piece-goods ,, ..	9,793	5,415	11,911	79,214	68,797	89,420
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ,, ..	169	134	191	1,417	1,817	2,043
Hosiery ,, ..	21	41	24	140	187	191
Miscellaneous ,, ..	154	102	276	1,376	1,374	2,162
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,, ..	30	62	204	93	426	1,462
Grand Total ,, ..	31,638	22,312	36,331	261 484	246,883	304,905

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,, ..	1,394	551	2,547	8,506	7,273	14,512
Chudders ,, ..	910	427	959	8,013	8,481	9,911
Dhotis ,, ..	1,644	907	2,273	15,703	15,928	20,811
Drills and jeans ,, ..	941	366	1,189	7,671	5,556	8,449
Cambrics and lawns ,, ..	11	4	6	399	203	41
Printers ,, ..	7	..	..	32	19	..
Shirtings and long cloth ,, ..	6,625	3,795	5,921	52,465	49,003	64,456
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ,, ..	788	389	1,098	7,387	6,103	8,600
Tent cloth ,, ..	87	68	259	620	693	888
Other sorts ,, ..	282	191	264	2,040	1,684	2,171
Total ,, ..	12,689	6,698	14,516	102,896	94,943	129,839
Coloured piece-goods ,, ..	7,602	2,388	8,796	61,846	47,264	64,262
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods ,, ..	162	120	180	1,359	1,731	1,963
Hosiery ,, ..	11	8	7	71	57	48
Miscellaneous ,, ..	114	67	224	1,124	1,085	1,755
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,, ..	29	37	162	74	341	1,013
Grand Total ,, ..	20,607	9,318	23,885	167,370	145,421	198,880

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of December			9 months ended December		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,, ..	361	173	180	2,699	877	566
Chudders ,, ..	370	454	458	3,585	3,683	3,369
Dhotis ,, ..	3,186	3,951	4,409	29,426	32,714	38,266
Drills and jeans ,, ..	6	17	23	209	370	224
Cambrics and lawns ,, ..	7	23	33	90	173	220
Printers ,, ..	341	162	84	2,142	1,381	720
Shirtings and long cloth ,, ..	1,827	1,839	1,275	16,646	16,091	14,021
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings ,, ..	213	347	412	1,664	2,587	2,755
Tent cloth ,,	133	34	5	925	417	15
Other sorts ,, .	209	221	110	1,743	1,798	935
Total ,, ..	6,653	7,221	6,989	59,129	60,091	61,091
Coloured piece-goods ,, ..	1,199	1,967	1,981	9,554	13,360	15,965
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ,, .	1	1	3	7	9	14
Hosiery ,, ..	10	34	15	69	129	142
Miscellaneous ,, ..	36	31	40	204	242	365
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,, ..	1	24	41	7	75	436
Grand Total ,, ..	7,900	9,278	9,069	68,970	73,906	78,013

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Jan. 1926	Dec. 1926	Jan 1927	July 1914	Jan. 1926	Dec. 1926	Jan. 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 6 10	6 6 10	100	137	137	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 12 0		8 6 0	100	156	..	150
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	75 0 0	77 8 0	80 0 0	100	167	172	178
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	61 8 0	52 0 0	58 8 0	100	154	130	146
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 14 8	4 5 5 (1)	4 12 2 (1	100	124	137	151
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 10 6	4 3 9	4 8 10	100	142	129	139
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	4 15 7	4 15 7	5 9 9	100	152	152	171
Index No.—Cereals ..			..				100	147	143	153
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 15 7	5 6 4	5 4 8	100	117	127	125
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	6 12 4	7 9 11	7 15 0	100	120	135	140
Index No.—Pulses ..							100	119	131	133
Index No.—Food grains ..							100	141	140	149
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0				100	..	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	17 0 0	18 12 0	18 0 0	100	167	184	177
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	10 3 3	10 1 1	9 8 5	100	129	128	121
Index No.—Sugar ..				..			100	148	156	149
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	10 7 7	7 5 7	7 3 4	100	188	132	129
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	81 6 10	74 4 7	74 4 7	100	178	163	163
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 3 0	2 0 0	1 14 0	100	149	136	128
Index No.—Other food ..							100	172	144	140
Index No.—All Food ..							100	149	143	147
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 14 0	10 6 0	10 10 0	100	122	116	119
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	10 8 0		11 1 0	100	131	..	138
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 4 0	16 8 0	16 12 0	100	122	152	154
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	14 12 0	14 12 0	15 12 0	100	131	131	140
Index No.—Oilseeds ..						...	100	127	133	138

Textiles—Cotton—												
(a) Cotton, raw—												
Broach		Fully good		Candy	251 0 0			100				
Oomra		Do.		,,	222 0 0	352 0 0	238 0 0	246 0 0	100	159	107	111
Dharwar		Saw-ginned		,,	230 0 0				100			
Khandesh		Machine-ginned		,,	205 0 0	326 0 0	221 0 0	231 0 0	100	159	108	113
Bengal		Do.		,,	198 0 0	286 0 0	221 0 0	229 0 0	100	144	112	116
Index No.—Cotton, raw							.. .		100	154	109	113
(b) Cotton manufactures—												
Twist		40 S		Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 6	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	153	122	122
Grey shirtings		Farl 2,000		Piece	5 15 0	10 12 0	8 12 0	8 9 0	100	181	147	144
White mulls		6,000		,,	4 3 0	9 10 0	8 14 0	8 14 0	100	230	212	212
Shirtings		Liepmann's 1,500		,,	10 6 0	21 0 0	17 4 0	17 4 0	100	202	166	166
Long Cloth		Local made 36" 37½ yds.		Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 6	0 13 0	0 13 6	100	184	147	142
Chudders		54" × 6 yds.		,,	0 9 6	1 0 0	0 13 6	0 13 0	100	168	142	137
Index No.—Cotton manufactures					...	.			100	186	156	154
Index No.—Textile—Cotton						.. .		...	100	174	140	140
Other Textiles—												
Silk		Manchow		Lb.	5 2 6	7 2 0	6 0 3	6 0 3	100	138	117	117
Do.		Mathow Lari		,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 5 4	4 8 1	100	160	147	153
Index No.—Other Textiles					..	.	...	...	100	149	132	135
Hides and Skins—												
Hides, Cow		Tanned		Lb	1 2 6	1 10 2	1 12 7	1 10 6	100	141	155	143
Do. Buffalo		Do.		,,	1 1 3	1 1 4	1 0 6	0 13 11	100	100	96	81
Skins, Goat		Do.		,,	1 4 0	2 12 9	2 7 9	2 8 6	100	224	199	202
Index No —Hides and Skins		.. .					. .		100	155	150	142
Metals—												
Copper braziers		. .		Cwt	60 8 0	59 0 0	57 8 0	56 12 0	100	98	95	94
Iron bars		.		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169
Steel hoops		. .		,,	7 12 0	10 12 0	10 2 0	10 2 0	100	139	131	131
Galvanised sheets		. .		,,	9 0 0	14 4 0	14 6 0	14 1 0	100	158	16.	156
Tin plates		. .		Box	8 12 0	16 0 0	22 0 0	21 0 0	100	183	251	240
Index No.—Metals				...	.	..	.	..	100	151	161	158
Other raw and manufactured articles—												
Coal		Bengal, 1st Class Jharia		Ton	14 12 0	21 14 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	148	142	142
Do.		Imported		,,	19 11 6	25 0 4	24 3 11	26 0 2	100	127	123	132
Kerosene		Elephant Brand		2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	170	175	175
Do.		Chester Brand		Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191
Index No.—Other raw and manfed. articles		. .		..	.				100	158	158	160
Index No —Food		.		.	.			.	100	149	143	147
Index No.—Non-food		.		. ..				.	100	157	147	146
General Index No.		.			..		.	.	100	154	146	146

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Jan. 1926	Dec. 1926	Jan. 1927	July 1914	Jan 1926	Dec. 1926	Jan 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs a p.	Rs a. p	Rs. a. p				
Cereals—				(1)	(3)	(3)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	59 12 0	59 4 0	56 4 0	100	153	152	144
Wheat, white	3% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red	,,	31 8 0	50 0 0	39 8 0	43 4 0	100	159	125	137
,, red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	,,	31 4 0	49 0 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	157	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt	,,	32 8 0	51 8 0	40 12 0	44 8 0	100	158	125	137
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt	,,	32 4 0	50 8 0	0 14 0	40 14 0	100	157	127	127
Jowari	Export quality	,,	25 8 0	44 0 0	34 8 0	35 0 0	100	173	135	137
Barley	3% dirt	,,	26 8 0	32 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	1.1	136	136
Index No.—Cereals	...		..		. .	..	100	154	132	135
Pulses—					(2)	(2)				
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	40 8 0	40 0 0	40 8 0	100	137	136	137
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 10 0	17 8 0	17 2 0	100	171	192	188
,,	,, brown	,,	8 1 6	14 12 0	15 14 0	15 6 0	100	182	196	190
Index No—Sugar						.	100	177	194	189
Other food—										
Salt	. . .	Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 10 3	1 10 6	100	79	77	78
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 8 0	3 9 0	3 15 0	100	129	132	146
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	70 0 0			100	137		
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	,,	62 0 0	84 0 0	92 0 0	91 0 0	100	135	148	147
Index No.—Oilseeds		..	. .	.			100	134	140	147
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	66 0 0	69 0 0	53 0 0	100	173	180	139

Textiles—Cotton										
(*a*) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	30 4 0	24 2 0	25 12 0	100	149	119	127
(*b*) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill .	Piece.	10 3 6	18 12 0	14 4 0	14 6 0	100	183	139	141
Shirtings	Liepmann's .	„	10 2 0	21 0 0	18 0 0	17 8 0	100	207	178	173
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..			. .	.			100	195	159	157
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..	...		. ..			.	100	180	145	147
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar .	Maund.	28 0 0	40 0 0	33 0 0	35 0 0	100	143	118	125
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	14 12 0	100	71	68	69
„ „	Punjab .	„	21 4 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	14 12 0	100	71	68	69
Index No.—Hides ..							100	71	68	69
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	63 0 0	59 0 0	58 8 0	100	104	98	97
Steel Bars		,	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	100	168	161	161
„ Plates		„	4 6 0	6 14 0	6 12 0	7 0 0	100	157	154	160
Index No —Metals ..	...	. .	. .	.	.		100	143	138	139
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Benga. ..	Ton	16 0 0	21 8 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	134	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
„ . ..	Elephant „ ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	165	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles	.	...	..		.. .	.	100	161	165	165
Index No.—Food ..	..	.	.	.	. .		100	150	139	140
Index No.—Non-food ..	. .	.	.	.			100	144	137	137
General Index No ..		.		.	.	.	100	147	138	138

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
January ..	127	92	244	340	188	138	273	236	182	157	166	160	189	188
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 ,, ..	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117	119	103		105 (m)
1916 ,, ..	108	148	102	115	117	116		146	140	106	...	118
1917 ,, ..	118	180	130	116	128	146		190	180	114	. .	142
1918 ,, ..	149	203	146	118	144	197		253	229	118	...	174
1919 ,, ..	186	208	155	132	157	205		275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 ,,	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 ,, ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 ,, ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 ,, ..	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 ,, ..	157	170	144	(a) 149	(l) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173 (m)
1925 July ..	157	173	146		..	598	509	...	169	133	..	
,, August	152	173	149	. .	163	610	517		167	132	..	
,, September	151	174	149	155		624	525	248	167	132	401	..
,, October	153	176	149		. .	643	533	..	165	132	...	. ..
,, November	153	176	152	.	.. .	643	534	. .	165	131	..	..
,, December	155	177	154	156	.	649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155		. .	665	527	.	167	131	...	. .
,, February	154	173	154	.	162	661	526		165	131	.	. ..
,, March	155	172	154	156		654	521	225		131	451	
,, April ..	153	168	153		.	642	529	.	.	131	.	.
,, May ..	153	167	152		.. .	652	558		160	132		.
,, June ..	155	168	150	161		650	579	218	162	131	485	175
,, July ..	157	170	150		.	649	637	.	162	130		.
,, August	155	170	150	.	163	652	681	. .	161	130	.	.
,, September	155	172	149	158		657	684	.	161	130	539	
,, October	155	174	148			672	705	218	161	131		
,, November	154	179	150			657	730	..		131		
,, December	156	179			. ..	.	.	.	.	.		
1927 January	156	175	..		...	..	...		.	.		
,, February	155				...	.	.	.. .		.	.	.

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter (b) First half of 1914 (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given (e) June 1914 = 100 (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922 (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December (n) First half of the year (p) June figures

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	* 56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 ,,	100	96	..		106	(c) 100		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,,		97	..		147	102		140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,,		117	..	..	138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,,		149	..	..	153	169		262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,,	236	196	.	.	178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,,	222	236	..	..	189	226		356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,,	216	259	152	.	228	299	307	509	292	(a) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,,	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,,	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,,	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,,	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 January	173	214	160	178	171	157	171	514	160	279	164	165	160
,, February	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
,, March	171	204	160	179	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
,, April	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
,, May	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
December	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
,, August	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
,, September	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
,, October	147	174	171	157	162	129	152	751	143	1 8	142	151	150
,, November	146		174	157	.	130	152	674	147	182	142	152	14.
,, December	146		172	. .	. .			.		. .	141	. .	..
1927 January	146	.. .	.. .	.	.	.	.	.	.				..

*July 1914 = 100 (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Ho'land	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	.	37	27	.	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100.(h)
1915 ,,	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..		124	128	119 (i)
1916 ,,	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	.	.		160	142	146	141
1917 ,,	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	.	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 ,,	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..		176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,,	187	269	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	.		210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,,	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	.	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,,	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,,	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e) 184	15.
1923 ,,	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	(e) 188	166
1924 ,,	151	162	134	117	149(c)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e) 200	170
1925 June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
,, July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	.	167
,, August	147	168	146	119	156	152		423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170		165
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168		165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129		228	166		163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165		163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(f)175	216	162		167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	.	212	160		163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159		
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049		198	158		
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157		159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052		194	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	.	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	149		587	660	193	1,116		196	156	.	157
,, September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157		158
,, October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1 091		191	157		160
,, November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1 081		186	158	..	159
,, December	154	169	.	.		149	.	599				.		157	.	.
1927 January	155	167	..			148							..	..	.	.
,, February	152		.											..	.	.

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914 (d) Revised series—1921 - 100 (e) Figure for June (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN DECEMBER 1926 AND JANUARY 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Dec. 1926	Karachi Dec. 1926	Ahmedabad Dec. 1926	Sholapur Dec. 1926	Poona Dec. 1926	Bombay Jan. 1927	Karachi Jan. 1927	Ahmedabad Jan. 1927	Sholapur Jan. 1927	Poona Jan. 1927
		Rs. a p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund	7 8 9 *135*	8 0 0 *120*	8 14 3 *144*	8 13 10 *168*	7 11 1 *133*	7 8 9 *135*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	8 1 4 *140*
Wheat	,,	7 5 8 *131*	6 2 6 *146*	6 15 4 *148*	7 6 0 *143*	8 0 0 *149*	7 5 8 *131*	5 13 11 *139*	6 10 8 *142*	7 1 0 *137*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	,,	5 12 6 *133*	4 11 4 *130*	5 2 7 *136*	4 4 2 *148*	5 5 4 *155*	5 11 2 *131*	4 8 1 *124*	5 0 0 131	4 7 7 *156*	5 10 9 *165*
Bajri	,,	5 14 10 *137*	5 4 7 *126*	5 8 3 *117*	4 15 2 *141*	5 8 5 *135*	5 13 6 *135*	4 15 5 *118*	5 8 3 *117*	4 7 0 *126*	5 9 10 *137*
Index No.—Cereals		*134*	*131*	*136*	*150*	*143*	*133*	*125*	*130*	*145*	*148*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 13 9 *159*	5 8 3 *145*	5 11 5 *143*	5 7 4 *127*	5 7 1 *112*	6 6 8 *149*	5 11 5 *150*	5 11 5 *143*	5 4 11 *124*	5 10 5 *116*
Turdal	,,	8 6 8 *144*	8 12 3 *131*	10 0 0 *162*	8 11 2 *149*	10 2 6 *154*	8 10 7 *148*	8 10 5 *130*	8 14 3 *144*	7 15 4 *136*	10 8 5 *159*
Index No.—Pulses		*152*	*138*	*153*	*138*	*133*	*149*	*140*	*144*	*130*	*138*

Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	14 4 7 *187*	13 1 0 *180*	13 14 7 *174*	14 8 9 *145*	15 5 0 *164*	14 4 7 *187*	13 1 0 *180*	13 14 7 *174*	14 8 9 *145*	14 10 10 *157*
Jagri (gul)	,,	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	13 5 4 *150*	10 0 0 *129*	10 7 4 *149*	13 11 1 *160*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	10 0 0 *129*	10 1 0 *143*
Tea	Lb.	0 15 4 *197*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 8 *201*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*
Salt	Maund	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 9 5 *161*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 7 6 *156*	2 13 5 *151*
Beef	Seer	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 6 2 *103*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 6 2 *103*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*
Mutton	,,	0 12 2 *182*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 12 10 *192*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 *191*	10 0 0 *225*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	10 0 0 *225*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*
Ghee	,	94 0 9 *185*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	96 6 10 *190*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	68 1 4 *121*	74 6 8 *144*
Potatoes	,,	8 5 4 *186*	8 3 3 *151*	10 0 0 *263*	9 6 7 *235*	5 11 5 *170*	9 8 5 *213*	4 7 1 *82*	8 0 0 *210*	8 14 3 *222*	6 0 3 *179*
Onions	,,	7 2 3 *460*	4 4 3 *235*	5 0 0 *250*	6 10 8 *267*	4 3 4 *210*	7 2 3 *460*	4 2 1 *227*	5 11 5 *286*	6 10 8 *267*	4 6 11 *221*
Cocoanut oil	,,	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 1 7 *102*	32 0 0 *160*	30 7 7 *114*	28 1 1 *100*
Index No.—Other articles of food ..	..	*198*	*177*	*180*	*173*	*159*	*202*	*170*	*176*	*171*	*159*
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*177*	*162*	*166*	*164*	*152*	*179*	*156*	*162*	*160*	*154*

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, MARCH, 1927 [No. 7

The Month in Brief

BOMBAY TRADE UNIONS REGULATIONS

The attention of officers of Trade Unions is drawn to the draft regulations under the Trade Unions Act published in the February issue of the *Labour Gazette*. It should be noted that criticisms of the regulations must be sent to the Secretary, General Department, before 5th May 1927.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of February 1927. The average absenteeism was 7·72 per cent. for Bombay City, 1·68 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 13·23 per cent. for Sholapur and 7·08 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 12·39 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 10·50 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 7·10 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 7·50.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In March 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 155, the same as in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 152.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 148 for the month of February 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were four industrial disputes in progress during February 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 1177 and the number of working days lost 775.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During February 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities in favour of India amounted to Rs. 470 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for March 1927

INDEX REMAINS STATIONARY

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **55 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **52 per cent.**

In March 1927,* the average level of retail prices, for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was the same as in the preceding month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 155 both in February and in March 1927. This is 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and on a par with the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles remained stationary as compared with the previous month. A rise of one point in wheat and three points in bajri was nearly counter-balanced by a fall of 4 points in jowari and the index number for cereals remained the same. Pulses, however, went up by 5 points owing to a rise of 6 points in gram and of one point in turdal. Among other food articles, raw sugar (gul) fell by 7 points but sugar (refined) remained unchanged. Tea advanced by 2 points, salt by 5 points and ghee by one point while beef and mutton fell by 3 and 5 points respectively. Onions registered a decrease of 39 points during the month. The index number for " other food " articles decreased by one point to 179.

The " fuel and lighting " group remained stationary at 166. The index number for clothing advanced by 4 points to 152.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November .	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between February 16 and March 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—MARCH

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927	July 1914	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·469	7·469	391·58	522·83	522·83
Wheat	„	21	5·594	7·599	7·682	117·47	159·58	161·32
Jowari	„	11	4·354	5·953	5·781	47·89	65·48	63·59
Bajri	„	6	4·313	5·771	5·927	25·88	34·63	35·56
Total—Cereals			...	...	...	582·82	782·52	783·30
Index Numbers—Cereals			...	...	...	*100*	*134*	*134*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·682	6·943	43·02	66·82	69·43
Turdal	„	3	5·844	8·823	8·906	17·53	26·47	26·72
Total—Pulses			...	...	...	60·55	93·29	96·15
Index Numbers—Pulses			...	...	...	*100*	*154*	*159*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	14·287	14·287	15·24	28·57	28·57
Raw Sugar (Gul)	„	7	8·557	14·287	13·693	59·90	100·01	95·85
Tea	„	½	40·000	77·776	78·203	1·00	1·94	1·96
Salt	„	5	2·130	3·219	3·313	10·65	16·10	16·57
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·510	0·500	9·04	14·28	14·00
Mutton	„ „	33	0·417	0·833	0·813	13·76	27·49	26·83
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	„	1½	50·792	94·047	94·641	76·19	141·07	141·96
Potatoes	„	11	4·479	7·141	7·141	49·27	78·55	78·55
Onions	„	3	1·552	5·953	5·359	4·66	17·86	16·06
Cocoanut Oil	„	¼	25·396	28·573	28·573	12·70	14·29	14·29
Total—Other food articles			...	...	...	381·18	686·32	680·82
Index Numbers—Other food articles			...	...	...	*100*	*180*	*179*
Total—All food articles			...	...	...	1,024·55	1,562·13	1,560·27
Index Numbers—All food articles			...	...	...	*100*	*152*	*152*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·49
Coal	„	1	0·542	0·771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting			...	...	...	60·44	100·54	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting			...	...	...	*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·828	0·844	16·04	22·36	22·79
Shirtings	„	25	0·641	0·922	0·979	16·03	23·05	24·48
T. Cloth	„	36	0·583	0·922	0·922	20·99	33·19	33·19
Total—Clothing			...	...	...	53·06	78·60	80·46
Index Numbers—Clothing			...	...	...	*100*	*148*	*152*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent			...	...	...	*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total			...	...	...	**1,251·07**	**1,935·67**	**1,935·67**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.			...	...	...	**100**	**155**	**155**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in February and March 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

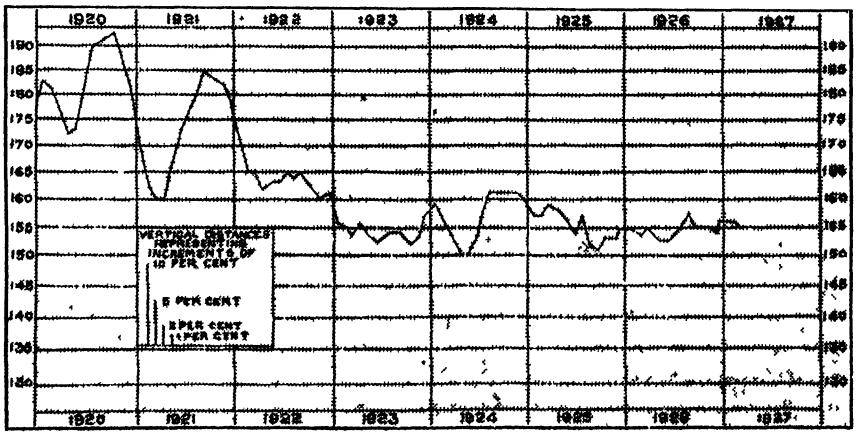
Articles	July 1914	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Mar. 1927 over or below Feb. 1927	Articles	July 1914	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Mar. 1927 over or below Feb. 1927
Rice ..	100	134	134	..	Salt ..	100	151	156	+ 5
Wheat ..	100	136	137	+1	Beef ..	100	158	155	— 3
Jowari ..	100	137	133	—4	Mutton .	100	200	195	— 5
Bairi ..	100	134	137	+3	Milk .	100	191	191	..
Gram .	100	155	161	+6	Ghee ..	100	185	186	+ 1
Turdal ..	100	151	152	+1	Potatoes .	100	159	159	..
Sugar (refined)	100	187	187	..	Onions .	100	384	345	—39
Raw sugar (gul)	100	167	160	—7	Cocoanut oil .	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	194	196	+2	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	152	152	..

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 25, Wheat 27, Jowari 25, Bajri 27, Gram 38, Turdal 34, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 38, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 35, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 37, Onions 71, Cocoanut Oil 12.

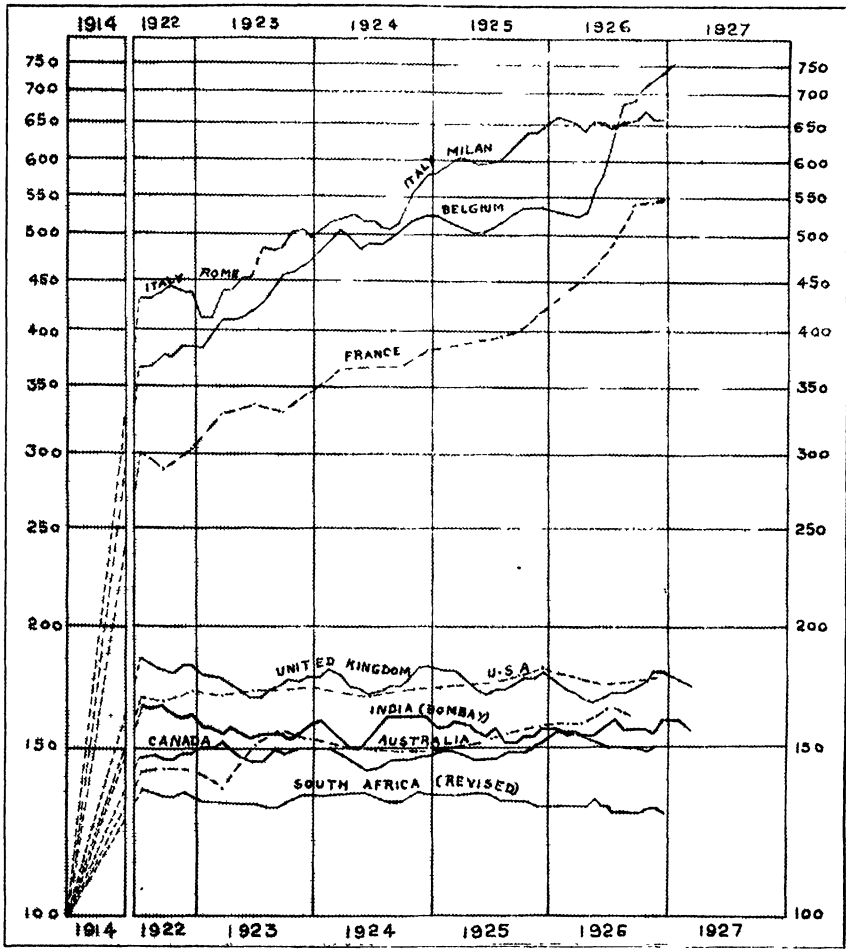
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 6 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos.: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U.S.A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A rise of two points

In February 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay stood at 148 as against 146 in the previous month. As compared with January 1927, there was a fall of one point in the food group but the non-food group advanced by 3 points. The general index number was 115 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and one point below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

A fall of 4 points in Cereals being partially counterbalanced by a rise of 4 points in Pulses, the index number for food grains registered a decrease of 3 points. Except in the case of wheat which showed a rise of one point, all the other cereals declined in price, *viz.*, rice by 5 points, jowari and bajri by 10 points each and barley by 4 points. Gram fell by 2 points but turdal rose by 10 points.

The index number for " Sugar " declined by 10 points to 139. The " Other food " group advanced by 10 points to 150 largely due to a rise of 30 points in the price of turmeric.

Under the non-food group, there was a rise of 5 points in Oilseeds, of 12 points in Raw cotton and of 9 points in Cotton manufactures. Hides and skins declined by 7 points and Other raw and manufactured articles by one point whilst Metals and Other textiles showed no change.

The sub-joined table compares February 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1926*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Jan 1927	+ or − % compared with Feb. 1926	Groups	Feb. 1926	May 1926	Aug. 1926	Nov. 1926	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927
1. Cereals ..	7	− 3	+ 4	1. Cereals ..	98	102	101	99	105	102
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 3	+17	2. Pulses ..	93	98	106	106	106	109
3. Sugar ..	3	− 7	− 6	3. Sugar ..	99	104	97	101	99	93
4. Other food ..	3	+ 7	− 5	4. Other food ..	105	101	97	97	93	99
All food ..	15	− 1	+ 2	All food ..	99	102	100	99	101	101
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 4	+11	5. Oilseeds ..	96	102	100	98	103	107
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+11	−17	6. Raw cotton ..	107	99	106	84	81	89
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	+ 6	−12	7. Cotton manufactures ..	106	103	101	89	88	93
8. Other textiles .	2	..	− 8	8. Other textiles	107	104	95	96	99	99
9. Hides and skins	3	− 5	−12	9. Hides & skins	103	105	86	97	96	91
10. Metals ..	5	..	+ 4	10. Metals ..	101	100	97	99	105	105
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	− 1	+ 4	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	96	97	105	105	105
All non-food ..	29	+ 2	− 4	All non-food ..	103	100	98	97	96	98
General Index No.	44	+ 1	− 2	General Index No.	101	101	99	98	98	99

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 664.

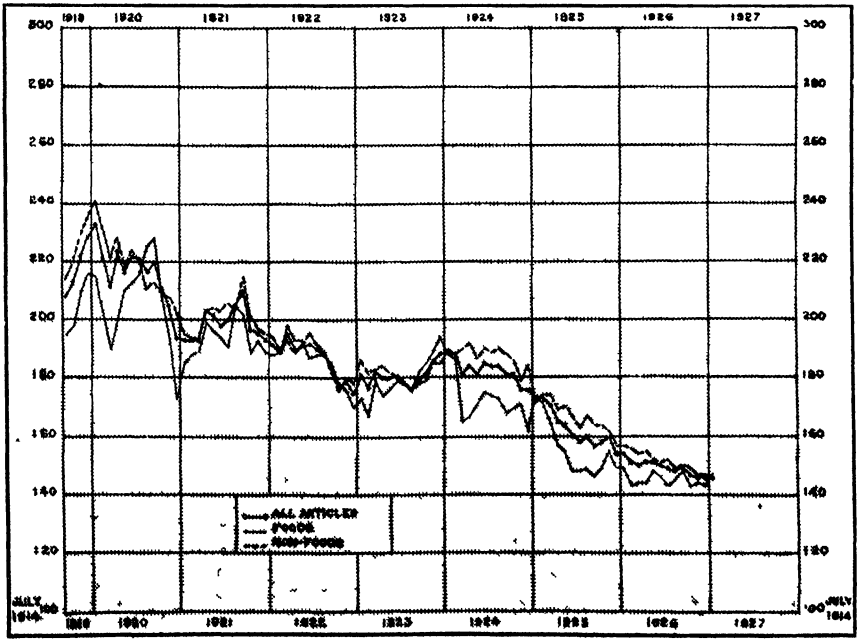
The following table is intended to show the annual movements ir food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920 .. .	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926	145	152	149
Two-monthly „ 1927	147	148	147

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

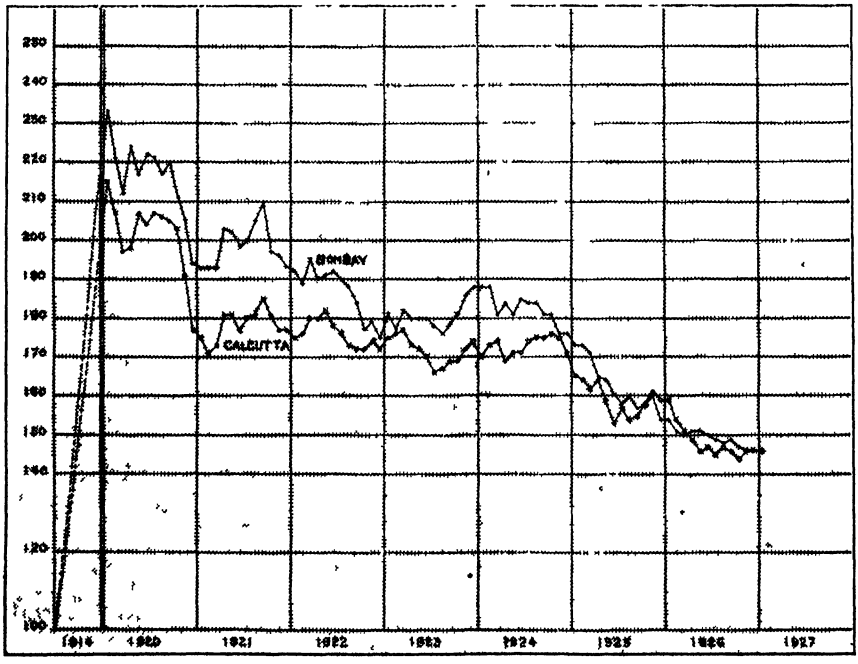


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

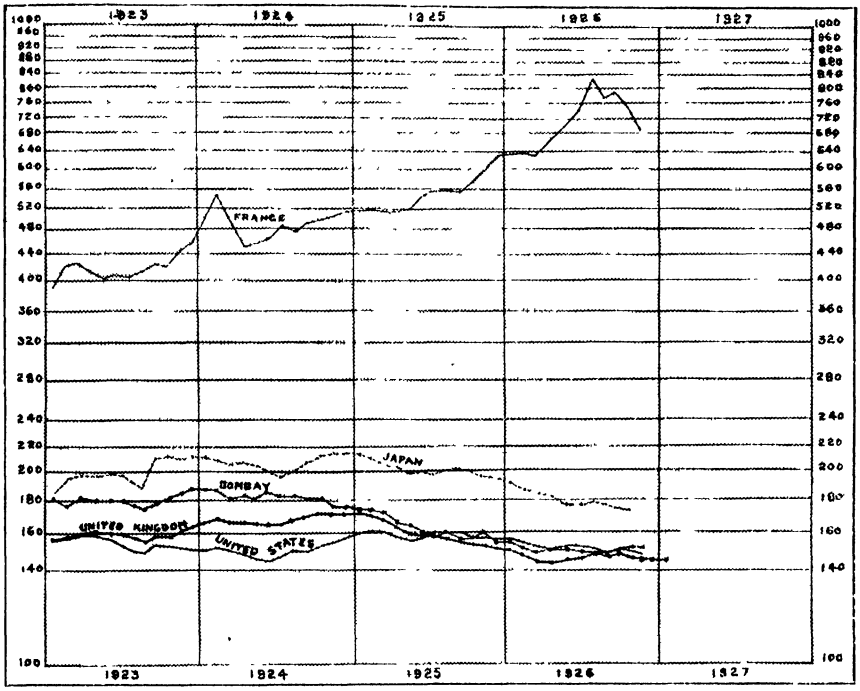
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to January 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), he Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in *The Statist*.

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Feb. 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	Jan. 1927
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee .	212	5 10	8 0	7 11	+2 1	—0 1
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 6	7 9	+1 11	+0 3
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 7	5 10	+1 7	+0 3
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 1	6 0	+1 5	—0 1
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 2	6 5	+2 1	+0 3
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 10	9 0	+3 1	+0 2
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	2 0	2 0	+0 11	..
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	,, ..	28	1 2	1 11	2 0	+0 10	+0 1
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb. ..	39	7 10	15 8	15 2	+7 4	—0 6
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 11	2 10	+1 1	—0 1
Beef ..		Lb. ..	39	2 6	4 0	4 0	+1 6	..
Mutton ..		,, ..	39	3 0	6 3	6 6	1 3 6	1 0 3
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,, ..	28	7 1	13 6	13 2	+6 1	—0 4
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,, ..	28	0 8	1 4	1 0	+0 4	—0 4
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,, ..	28	0 3	1 0	0 10	+0 7	—0 2
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,, ..	28	3·7	4 0	4 0	1 0 5	..

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during February 1927 as compared with the previous month, were within narrow limits. The price of rice and bajri declined by 1 pie each per paylee, that of turdal rose by 2 pies per paylee and of wheat, Jowari and gram registered a rise of 3 pies each per paylee. Amongst other food articles, raw sugar (gul) advanced by 1 pie per seer and mutton by 3 pies per lb. Salt fell by 1 pie per paylee, ghee and potatoes by 4 pies each per seer and onions by 2 pies per seer. The price of the remaining articles remained practically unchanged during the month.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 233 per cent. above their pre-war level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent.; gul and salt by more than 60 per cent. and beef and potatoes by 60 and 50 per cent. respectively. The rise in the prices of food grains is from 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its pre-war level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in January and February 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in January and February 1927 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in January 1927 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in February 1927 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	106	106	112	107	Rice ..	100	107	107	113	103
Wheat ..	100	80	91	96	109	Wheat ..	100	82	92	89	107
Jowari ..	100	79	88	79	100	Jowari ..	100	77	85	68	93
Bajri ..	100	85	94	76	96	Bajri ..	100	96	107	73	106
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	88	95	91	103	Cereals ..	100	91	98	86	102
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	89	89	83	88	Gram ..	100	86	86	79	88
Turdal ..	100	100	103	92	122	Turdal ..	100	105	101	94	115
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	95	96	88	105	Pulses ..	100	96	94	87	102
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	91	97	102	103	Sugar (refined) ..	100	90	97	102	98
Jagri (Gul).	100	83	83	73	73	Jagri (Gul)	100	80	80	70	59
Tea ..	100	100	100	114	105	Tea ..	100	103	103	118	108
Salt ..	100	60	69	105	86	Salt ..	100	62	71	104	88
Beef ..	100	110	75	61	74	Beef ..	100	110	54	61	74
Mutton ..	100	78	78	78	86	Mutton ..	100	75	75	75	75
Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	46	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	74	74	71	77	Ghee ..	100	74	76	76	73
Potatoes ..	100	47	84	93	63	Potatoes ..	100	56	61	86	74
Onions ..	100	58	80	93	62	Onions ..	100	92	84	84	59
Cocoa nut oil.	100	88	112	107	98	Cocoa nut oil	100	90	112	112	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	77	83	88	82	Other articles of food ..	100	80	79	88	80
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**81**	**87**	**89**	**90**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**84**	**85**	**87**	**88**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles rose by 3 points at Karachi whilst it declined by 2 points at each of the other three mofussil centres. Referring back to February 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles is lower by 4, 9, 3 and 3 points respectively at Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice recorded a slight rise except at Poona. Wheat and onions rose at Karachi and Ahmedabad, but fell at the remaining centres. The relative price of mutton, jowari and gul registered a decrease but that of tea advanced at all the four mofussil centres. Milk fell at Karachi and beef at Ahmedabad ; while both remained unchanged at the other centres. The relative price of ghee was steady at Karachi, rose at Ahmedabad and Sholapur but fell at Poona. Potatoes declined at Ahmedabad and Sholapur.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in February .. 4 Workpeople involved .. 1,177

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during February 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in February 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in February 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Feb. 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Feb. 1927
	Started before 1st Feb.	Started in Feb.	Total		
Textile	1	2	3	1,117	625
Transport					
Engineering					
Metal		1	1	60	150
Miscellaneous					
Total ..	1	3	4	1,177	775

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was four three of which occurred in cotton mills. One of the disputes was in Jalgaon and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in these four disputes was 1177 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 775.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, October 1926 to February 1927

——	October 1926	November 1926	December 1926	January 1927	February 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	7	4	2	5	4
Disputes in progress at beginning			1		1
Fresh disputes begun ..	7	4	1	5	3
Disputes ended ..	7	3	2	4	2
Disputes in progress at end		1		1	2
Number of workpeople involved	6,120	1,216	712	4,002	1,177*
Aggregate duration in working days ..	14,358	3,094	1,251	16,507	775
Demands—					
Pay	4	2	2	3	4
Bonus					
Personal	3	2		1	
Leave and hours ..					
Others				1	
Results—					
In favour of employees..	1		1		1
Compromised ..		1			
In favour of employers..	6	2	1	4	1

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, *viz.*, 692, which carried forward from January.

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
March 1926 ..	9	8	9	3,161	67	22	11
April „ ..	3	3	3	13,087	67	33	..
May „ ..	6	6	4	8,457	100	..	..
June „ ..	9	7	7	1,752	100	..	..
July „ ..	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August „ ..	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „ ..	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October „ ..	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November „ ..	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December „ ..	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927 ..	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February „ ..	4	3	2	775	50	50	..

† This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning in the month of February 1927 in the Bombay Presidency was three compared with five in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these three disputes was 485 and the aggregate loss in time amounted to 575 working days. In addition to the above, the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, which had carried forward into February from the previous month and had originally involved 692 work-people, was responsible for a further loss of 200 working days in the month under review. All the four disputes arose over wages questions, and only two terminated during the month. The workers gained their object in one dispute, while the other ended in favour of the employers.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

Three disputes were in progress in Bombay City during the month. One of these was the continuation of the strike which had begun last month in the Emperor Edward Mill. At the beginning of the month under review, there were, in all, 661 operatives working in the weaving department. During the subsequent 5 days the number of weavers working in the mill underwent slight fluctuations, and on the 7th the weaving department resumed its normal working with its full complement of 692 hands, of which 200 were those who had previously gone on strike. The result of this dispute was in favour of the employers.

The second dispute occurred in the Oriental Iron Works, Mazagon, and was due to delay in payment of the overtime wages for the months of October and November 1926. All the 60 workmen employed in the works stopped work at 8-30 A.M. on the 4th demanding immediate payment of their overtime wages. The management promised to pay them on the 7th and asked them to resume work. The workers were not, however, satisfied with this and left the Works quietly at 11 A.M. There was no change in the situation till the 7th and the works remained closed. The outstanding overtime wages were paid to the workers on the 7th and all the strikers resumed work in the afternoon. This strike ended in favour of the workers.

The third dispute occurred in the Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills. The weaving department of the Mills began to work night shift in addition to day shift from the 1st of February 1927. The weavers on night shift requested the management to either transfer them on to day shift or grant an increase of 25 per cent. in their wages. The request was refused by the management, and 275 weavers on night shift struck work at 7-30 P.M. on the 28th and left the Mill quietly. The strike continued into the next month.

JALGAON

The management of the Bhagirath Ramchandra Mill notified the workers that, because the cloth market did not show signs of improvement in prices, the *mahagai* allowance granted to the employees would be decreased from 65 to 32½ per cent. in the case of time-workers and from 75 to 37½ per cent. in the case of job-workers and that these reductions would take effect from the 1st of March 1927. As a protest against this notice, 150 men in the spinning department struck work on the 28th. This strike was in progress at the close of the month.

Industrial Disputes in India

There were thirty Industrial Disputes in progress in India during the quarter ended the 31st December 1926. Only one of these disputes was in progress at the beginning of the quarter. The total number of work-people involved was 51,670 and the aggregate duration of all the disputes amounted to 254,921 working days. None of the disputes continued into the next quarter.

The following table shows the general effects of the disputes, by Provinces :—

Province	Number of disputes	Number of workpeople involved	Number of working days lost
Bombay	10	7,786	18,703
Bengal	19	43,184	233,418
Central Provinces	1	700	2,800
Total ..	30	51,670	254,921

One-third of the total number of disputes occurred in the Bombay Presidency and all but one of the remainder in Bengal. More than 91 per cent. of the total time loss was due to the disputes in Bengal. The single dispute which was in progress in the Central Provinces resulted in a time loss of about 1 per cent. as compared with rather less than 7·5 per cent. in Bombay.

The general effects of the disputes classified according to establishments are set forth in the following table :—

Class of Establishment	Number of disputes	Number of workpeople involved	Number of working days lost
Cotton Mills	11	8,486	21,503
Jute Mills	14	40,284	224,118
Engineering Works	1	600	2,400
Railway Workshops	2	1,900	5,500
Miscellaneous	2	400	1,400
Total ..	30	51,670	254,921

The greatest number of disputes occurred in Jute Mills and the number of working days lost to the industry was 224,118, or 87·92 per cent. of the aggregate time loss. Next come Cotton Mills with eleven disputes and a time-loss amounting to 8·44 per cent. A little over 3½ per cent. of the total time loss was covered by the five disputes which affected the remaining industrial establishments in India.

The following two tables analyse the causes of the disputes, (1) by Provinces and (2) by Classes of Establishments :—

Province	Number of disputes assignable to causes concerning				
	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and Hours	Others
Bombay	7	..	3	..	..
Bengal	14	..	1	..	4
Central Provinces	..	..	..	..	1
Total ..	21	..	4	..	5

Class of Establishments	Number of disputes assignable to causes concerning				
	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and Hours	Others
Cotton Mills	7	..	3	..	1
Jute Mills	10	..	..	..	4
Engineering Works	1	..	..	..	..
Railway Workshops	1	..	1	..	..
Miscellaneous	2	..	..	..	..
Total ..	21	..	4	..	5

As in the previous quarter, the most frequent cause of disputes was the pay question. Disputes under this category were largest in number in the Jute Mills in Bengal. Next in the order of frequency, come the disputes in the Bombay Cotton Mills. In these Mills, more than in any other class of establishments, " personnel " causes very often brought the men out on strike. The greatest number of disputes which arose over " miscellaneous " causes is to be found in the Bengal Jute Mills.

The results of the disputes, (1) by Provinces and (2) by Classes of Establishments are shown in the following two tables :—

Province	Number of disputes in which the employees were		
	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
Bombay	2	1	7
Bengal	3	3	13
Central Provinces			1
Total ..	5	4	21

Class of Establishments	Number of disputes in which the employees were		
	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
Cotton Mills	2	1	8
Jute Mills	2	2	10
Engineering Works			1
Railway Workshops	1		1
Miscellaneous		1	1
Total ..	5	4	21

The percentage of disputes which ended unfavourably to the workers was 70, and of those which were entirely favourable to the employees was 16·67. In the remaining disputes, the workers were partially successful.

Compared with the previous quarter, there was greater industrial disturbance in India during the quarter under review. Although the number of disputes increased by only one, the total time lost to all the industrial establishments put together was nearly double that in the previous quarter.

Accidents

STATISTICS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1927

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

The statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the months of January and February 1927 in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. During January and February 1927 there were 581 accidents in Bombay City, fatal in 4 cases, serious in 83 cases, and minor in 498 cases. One hundred and

twenty-seven or 22 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages being 76·8 per cent. compared with 21·7 per cent. in textile mills and 1·5 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

There were in all 62 accidents in Ahmedabad 59 of which occurred in textile mills and the remaining 3 in miscellaneous concerns. Out of the total number of accidents, 35 were due to machinery in motion and 27 to other causes. One of these accidents proved fatal, 32 caused serious and the rest minor injuries.

In Karachi there were 9 accidents out of which 4 occurred in Railway workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Out of the total number of accidents 2 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 7 to other causes. One of these accidents caused serious and the rest minor injuries.

In the other centres of the Presidency there occurred 120 accidents, of which 28 were in textile mills, 71 in workshops and 21 in miscellaneous concerns. Machinery in motion was the cause of 30 accidents while other causes were responsible for the remaining 90 accidents. The injuries caused by these accidents were fatal in 19 cases, serious in 30 cases and minor in 85 cases.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, February 1927

BOMBAY SUBURBAN (BANDRA)

The mukadam of a match factory was prosecuted under Section 43 (*b*) for breach of Section 17 for smoking inside the stick boiling and dipping department. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

THANA

The manager of a woollen mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 27 and Section 28 for employing certain persons in contravention of these sections. He was convicted and fined Rs. 8 in each of nineteen cases. (Rs. 152 for nineteen cases.)

SHOLAPUR

The manager of a textile factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 23 for employing certain children without certificates. He was convicted and fined Rs. 50 for three cases.

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75 for employing women before the hours specified by the Rule. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases. (Rs. 150 for ten cases.)

The manager of a second ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75 for employing women before the hours specified by the Rule. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of ten cases. (Rs. 150 for ten cases.)

The occupier of the same factory was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for the same offence. He was also convicted and fined Rs. 8 in each of ten cases. (Rs. 80 for ten cases.)

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (*f*) for breach of Section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 33 (*ii*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 20.

Two spinning masters of other cotton mills were also prosecuted under Section 41 (*f*) for a similar offence. They were convicted and fined Rs. 20 each.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during February 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of February 1927. All commissioners in the Presidency furnished information and out of a total number of 40 cases disposed of during the month, 38 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. One case which was reported as having been transferred from one Commissioner to another has not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded during the month amounted to Rs. 15,815-13-6 as against Rs. 17,630-5-0 in the previous month and Rs. 21,914-6-0 in February 1926. Out of the 40 cases in which compensation was claimed 17 were fatal accidents, 20 of permanent partial disablement, 2 of temporary disablement and the remaining one of permanent total disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 23 and in other industries 17. The corresponding figures for February 1926 were 16 and 29.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the 40 cases was 46 of whom 41 were adult males and 2 adult females. The remaining three were under 15 years of age, one being a male and the rest females.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 27 were original claims and 13 registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in 22 cases, agreements were registered in 13 cases, 4 cases were dismissed and one case was allowed to be withdrawn.

Employment Situation in February 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 124 or 86·11 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of February 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 124 returns amounted to 7·34 per cent. in February as against 7·33 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City all 80 mills which were working during the month furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 7·72 per cent. as compared with 8·11 per cent. during January.

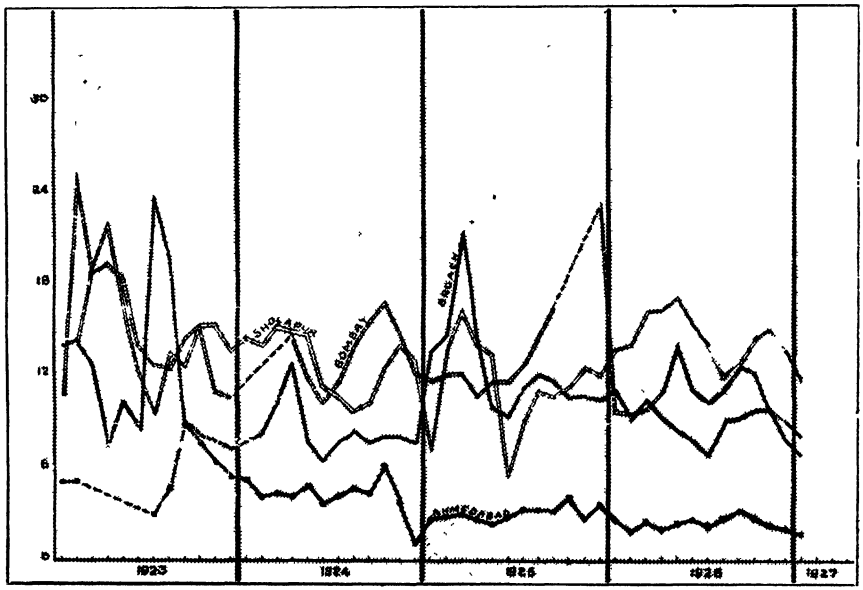
In Ahmedabad 55 mills were working during the month and 36 or 65·45 per cent. of them furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 1·68 per cent. as against 1·85 per cent. in January. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

All the mills in Sholapur submitted returns and none of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour. The average percentage absenteeism amounted to 13·23.

In two out of the three mills in Broach which supplied information the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism during the month under review was 7·08 per cent. as against 6·87 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres and absenteeism increased only in Sholapur and Broach.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 12·39 per cent. as against 10·14 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 10·50 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 7·10 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 7·50 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

The Labour Union has decided to hold at least one meeting every month in each mill, the workers of which are members of the Union. Members of the Union have been requested to write an essay on " What should be done to increase the membership of the Union ? " A prize of Rs. 10 is to be given for the best essay and Rs. 5 for the second best. The activities of the Samaj Sudhar Sangh started last year are proceeding satisfactorily. Arrangements are being made to celebrate the Holi festival at the Labour Union Office and an attractive programme of Katha, Bhajan, games, cinema, etc., has been drawn up in order to induce labourers to abstain from drink and other vices in which they usually indulge at the time of Holi.

One of the local mills has dismissed its assistant spinning master on a charge of taking bribes from the workers and has fined some of its jobbers and mukadams one month's wages for abetting. The Labour Union hopes that such exemplary punishment will lead to the eradication of this evil.

The Baby Week was held from the 27th of February to the 6th of March 1927. In addition to the main centre at the P. R. Trading College travelling sub-centres were held at the Advance Mills, the Rajnagar Mills and the Municipal Schools at Saraspur and Gomtipur where magic lantern shows accompanied by lectures were given.

On Sunday the 6th March 1927 a Health Workers' Conference was held when the Civil Surgeon presided. A discussion took place on the high mortality in Ahmedabad and the physical well-being of mill workers. A resolution was passed recommending the establishment of creches in all mills in Ahmedabad.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th March 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

" The situation regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at this moment in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Konkan.—Since the submission of the last report there has been practically no rainfall in the Division excepting a few drops of rainfall in two or three places in Ratnagiri, Kolaba and Thana districts mostly during the third week of February and the second week of March. The rainfall was in no way useful. Preparation of lands for the next season has been undertaken almost everywhere. Harvesting of *rabi* crops was also started. The irrigated crops are generally doing well.

Gujarat.—Some light scattered showers were received during the third week of February in almost the whole of the division. These being generally light were neither useful nor in any way injurious to the standing crops. The standing *rabi* crops in areas south of the Narbada river

were generally progressing well, but those in the Northern Gujarat and in places bordering on Kathiawar were in a very unsatisfactory condition due to the attack of locusts and severe frost during January and thus they are expected to yield much below the standard. Harvesting of *rabi* crops and cotton picking is still continued. The condition of irrigated crops was, on the whole, satisfactory.

Deccan and Karnatak.—Except a few cents of rainfall in a few places mostly in the North Deccan during the third week of February and in the second week of March there has been practically no rainfall elsewhere in these divisions during the period under review. The rainfall was insignificant and was not useful. The standing crops in the Western and Central belts of the Deccan and in the *Mallad* portion of the Karnatak were in a fairly good condition, but those in the whole of the East Deccan and most of the Karnatak were in a poor condition due to insignificient moisture in the soil from the beginning of the sowing time and are thus expected to give a poor yield in many places. The harvesting of *rabi* crops was in progress and the threshing of wheat and gram was continued in places. The crops under irrigation were progressing satisfactorily in both these divisions."

European Cost of Living

VARIATIONS IN BOMBAY DURING 1926

The variations in the European cost of living index number during 1926 were within narrow limits; and though the annual average for 1926 recorded a fall of 3 points as compared with the preceding year, the index number remained practically steady throughout the year under review. Only in July 1926 was the index one point higher than the yearly average, *i.e.*, 158.

The following table shows the index numbers during the year :—

July 1914 = 100

Month and year	General Index Number
January 1926	158
April 1926	158
July 1926	159
October 1926	158

As compared with the previous year, the food index declined by 8 points to 170, there being a fall of 12 points in "food-bazaar" and of one point in "food-stores." The annual average for food-bazaar was 169 and that for food-stores 170.

The fuel and lighting group recorded a further fall of 6 points and stood at 112 as compared with 118 in 1925 and 121 in the year 1924.

A fall of 12 points in the clothing group was due to decreases of 4 and 21 points respectively in Men's and Women's and children's clothing. It may be mentioned here that though the index number for the combined

clothing group averaged 161, the average for men's clothing was 179 and that for women's and children's clothing was only 142.

As no house-rent enquiry was conducted during the year under review the weighted index number for 1923-24 has been used. Similarly, the index number for " Servants' wages " was taken to be the same as in 1924.

The rapid fall in the prices of tyres and inner tubes resulted in bringing down the conveyance index from 147 in January to 134 in October 1926. The annual averages for both " conveyance" and " household necessaries " declined by 6 points each to 141 and 134 respectively. The Miscellaneous group averaged 158 as against 159 a year ago.

The following table compares the annual index numbers of the various groups and sub-groups included in the European Cost of Living Index :—

Group Index Numbers of various Commodities included in the European Cost of Living Index Number

July 1914 100

Group or Item	Annual average for 1924	Annual average for 1925	Annual average for 1926	Percentage rise (+) or fall (—) in 1926 over or below 1925
Food—				
Bazaar	178	181	169	— 6·6
Stores	180	171	170	— 0·6
All Food ..	179	178	170	— 4·5
Fuel and lighting	121	118	112	— 5·1
Clothing—				
Men's	193	183	179	— 2·2
Women's and children's ..	170	163	142	—12·9
Total Clothing ..	182	173	161	— 6·9
House-rent	163	163	163	
Miscellaneous—				
Servants' wages	184	184	184	
Conveyance	164	147	141	— 4·1
School-fees, etc.	136	129	130	+ 0·8
Passages	171	164	168	+ 2·4
Income-tax	200	200	200	
Household necessaries ..	125	140	134	— 4·3
Others	213	211	198	— 6·2
Total Miscellaneous ..	165	159	158	— 0·6
General Index Number ..	165	161	158	— 1·9

Questions in the Legislature

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Varahagiri Venkata Jogiah: When was the Trade Union Bill passed into Law? Has the Act been put into force yet? If not, when will the Government be pleased to bring it into force?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: Assent was given to the Indian Trade Unions Bill on 25th March 1926. The date on which the Act can be brought into force will depend on the progress made by local Governments in promulgating the necessary regulations; but the Government of India hope that it will be possible to bring the Act into force on 1st April next.

Labour in Assam Tea Gardens

Kumar Ganganand Sinha: Is it a fact that the emigration of a large number of Santals and other indigenous working class people from the Santal Parganas to the Assam tea gardens and other places is one of the causes of the decrease of the Santal population in the district? If the answer be in the affirmative what steps are being taken to check the same; if in the negative, will the Government be pleased to state reasons?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative; but it should be added that the proportion of emigrants from the Santal Parganas who go to the Assam tea gardens is very small. Government are taking no steps to check the emigration as they believe that it is not in the best interests of labourers or of the country as a whole that labour should be prevented from going to those areas where it is in demand.

Unemployment

Kumar Ganganand Sinha: What action, if any, have Government taken so far on the unemployment resolution passed in the Assembly last year? Will it be pleased to lay on the table the correspondence between the Government of India and the Provincial Governments in this connection? If not, why?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The Government of India have addressed the local Governments on the Resolution passed by the Assembly in their letter No. L-1373, dated the 26th May 1926, which has been published; there has been no further correspondence in this connection between the Government of India and Provincial Governments since the resolution was adopted. A copy of this letter will be supplied to the Honourable Member.

Trade Union Act

Mr. M. K. Acharya: When do Government propose to bring the Indian Trade Union Act into operation? Have any Registrars of Trade Unions as contemplated in the Act been appointed in any province? What steps do Government propose to take to put into effect the provisions of the Act for affording facilities for the organisation and registration of Trade Unions in India?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: As regards the first part of the question, the attention of the Honourable Member is invited

to the reply given to unstarred question No. 36 asked by Mr. V. V. Jogiah on 31st January last. The Government of India have no particulars of the appointment of Registrars but they will draw the attention of local Governments to the necessity of appointing Registrars before the Act is brought into force. All the provisions of the Trade Unions Act will become operative on the issue of the notification required by section 1 (3) of the Act.

Workmen's Compensation, Bengal

Mr. K. C. Neogy: (*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a series of cases under the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, in Calcutta, on the lines of Amina Khatun *versus* A. C. Roy and Company (Claim Case No. 31 of 1926), decided by Mr. Lethbridge, Commissioner, Workmen's Compensation, Bengal?

(*b*) Do Government propose to undertake an amendment of the Act, so as to bring within its scope accidents happening to men engaged in loading or unloading ships on to boats?

(*c*) Has any other defect been brought to light in the course of administration of this Act? If so, of what character, and what action do Government propose to take to remedy the defect?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (*a*) I have not seen the particular case cited by the Honourable Member. But, following the decision of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bengal, in what was apparently a similar case, the attention of Government was drawn to the fact that persons injured by loading and unloading ships in mid-stream are not entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

(*b*) Government propose to achieve the same end by using the powers conferred upon them by section 2 (3) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the preliminary notification for this purpose which is dated the 18th November last has been published for criticism and referred to the local Governments concerned for their opinion. A copy of this notification is being sent to the Honourable Member.

(*c*) Several suggestions for the improvement of the Act in matters of detail have been received by Government and the question of the advisability of introducing an amending Bill will be considered during the current year.

The Sixty-Hour Week

Mr. Amar Nath Dutt: (*a*) Is it a fact that at the International Labour Conference held at Geneva it was decided that no man in any industry should be made to work for more than sixty hours a week?

(*b*) Has this resolution been accepted by the British Government?

(*c*) Has the resolution been accepted by the Indian Government?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) and (*c*) do not arise.

Prompt Payment of Wages

Mr. N. M. Joshi: Will Government be pleased to state when they propose to introduce legislation regarding the question of the prompt payment of wages?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The Government of India have addressed local Governments in their letter No. L-1391, dated the 28th July 1926 which has been published. Replies are still awaited from some local Governments. When these replies have been received the question will be examined. No Bill will be introduced during this Session, but it may be possible to arrange for the discussion of the subject by the Standing Advisory Committee attached to the Department of Industries and Labour before the Session closes.

Injuries in Factories

Mr. M. S. Aney: Has the attention of Government been drawn to the figures in Table III appended to Bulletin No. 37 of Indian Industries and Labour, and particularly to the great increase in the number of persons injured in recorded accidents every year from 1920 to 1925.

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: It is not the case that there has been a great increase in every one of the years given in the question. The large increase in the general accident rate in 1924 and 1925 has received the attention of Government and I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the notes on the working of the Factories Act published with " Statistics of Factories " for those years.

The Coorg Labour Act.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: (*a*) Is it a fact that the Government of India have recently sanctioned the enactment of legislation on the lines of the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act in the province of Coorg?

(*b*) Is it a fact that one of the main reasons given for passing such legislation was the existence on the statute book of the " Madras Planters' Labour Act " which operates in parts adjoining Coorg?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the Committee appointed by the Government of Madras to consider the question of the repeal of the Madras Planters' Labour Act have recommended that this Act be repealed only when the Coorg legislation ceases to exist?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they propose to take to break this vicious circle?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (*a*) The Honourable Member presumably refers to the Coorg Labour Act, 1926. The introduction of the Bill enacted as that Act received the sanction of the Governor General and not of the Government of India.

(*b*) This was one of the reasons, but not the main reason.

(*c*) So far as the Government of India are aware, the answer is in the negative. I understand that a Bill is to be introduced in the Madras Legislative Council repealing the Madras Planters' Labour Act with effect from 1st April 1930. The Coorg Act will cease to have effect from 1st April 1931.

(*d*) I cannot see that there is any vicious circle to be broken.

COUNCIL OF STATE

Accidents in Mills

The Honourable Sir Ebrahim Haroon Jaffer: Will Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many workers in mills lost their lives in 1925 by coming into contact with machinery;

(*b*) whether the millowners have paid any compensation for such accidents ;

(*c*) if so, how much ; and

(*d*) what steps have been taken to discourage the wearing of long hair and loose garments when manipulating machinery ?

The Honourable Mr. A. C McWatters : (*a*) In the statistics of factories published by the Government of India accidents are not classified according to their causes, and the information asked for by the Honourable Member is not therefore readily available. The total number of fatal accidents in factories during the year 1925 was 263, and the percentage of these accidents due to machinery was about 40.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Workmen's Compensation returns which are forwarded by local Governments to the Government of India do not record separately the amount paid in respect of accidents due to machinery in factories.

(*d*) The Factories Rules in most provinces provide that no person engaged in oiling or adjusting belts in any work whatsoever within reach of unfenced transmission machinery shall be allowed to wear loosely fitting clothing. No regulations have been framed regarding the wearing of long hair by operatives employed on machinery.

The 1924 Census of Production

It is expected that publication in the *Board of Trade Journal* of the results of the census of production in 1924 will begin within the next few days. Progress with the present census has been more rapid than it was in 1907, but, on the other hand, the work has taken longer than hopes would have suggested. This modified delay is attributed to the fact that many people were unfamiliar with the census forms, some of which were decidedly complicated.

There have been a number of cases of obstruction by manufacturers in a small way of business, who resented what they regarded as a form of Government interference, and a large number of prosecutions were made. These prosecutions, generally resulting in fines, had a salutary effect, which, it is hoped, will extend to the period when the next census is taken. Industry as a whole, however, has welcomed the census, and trade associations have encouraged the Board of Trade to go beyond statutory requirements and invite manufacturers to supply additional information, much of which will be of considerable value. It was generally regretted that the war should have affected the working of the Census of Production Act, which provided that a census should take place every five years, and that the present census should be only the second completed national survey taken.

About 130 different classes of schedules were sent out to more than 350,000 employers. The framework of the inquiry was much the same as in 1907, but one or two schedules were split up for greater convenience.

The difficulty which had to be met was that there were small engineering firms who were not concerned with more than half-a-dozen items of the 123 mentioned in the original schedule, but, on the other hand, there were companies which covered a wide range of manufacture, and if an attempt had been made to break up the schedule it is probable that important operations would, in many cases, have been hidden under the heading of "all other products." New industries since 1907 included those concerned with æroplane construction, wireless, and the manufacture of artificial silk. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, February 19, 1927.*)

Report on Unemployment Insurance

SUMMARY OF MAIN SUGGESTIONS

The report of the Unemployment Insurance Committee (of which Lord Blanesburgh was chairman) contains much of interest to business men, and a useful summary of the main recommendations of the report has been prepared by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce. The following are extracts from this summary :—

The risk of genuine unemployment should be insured. An unemployment insurance scheme, compulsory, and covering at least the persons at present covered by the State scheme, should be a permanent feature of our Code of Social Legislation (paragraph 49).

The recommendations are made in contemplation of a contributory scheme (paragraphs 51, 52).

We set out the outlines of the permanent unemployment insurance scheme which we recommend, including rates of benefit and contributions (paragraphs 57, 58). There will be only one kind of benefit. Extended benefit, so far as it is distinguished from standard benefit, will disappear. The new scheme will have to start with a considerable load of debt. Initially, the contributions to be paid under the new scheme should be increased. The new scheme should be introduced as soon as the existing scheme is again continuously repaying debt (paragraph 63).

There should be a single form of procedure for the adjudication of claims. This procedure should consist of an initial determination on a claim to benefit by the insurance officer, with rights of appeal to the Courts of Referees and to the umpire (paragraphs 88-90).

We propose a fuller indication of the meaning of the condition "genuinely seeking work but unable to obtain suitable employment," and suggest a modification of the existing provisions relating to the suitability of employment (paragraphs 91, 92 and 95).

The claims of persons who have drawn 13 weeks of benefit in a period of 26 weeks should be examined specially and referred for consideration to the Court of Referees (paragraph 95).

SCOPE OF THE SCHEME

State unemployment insurance must be organised on the basis that the risk of unemployment is a risk to be borne together by all sections of

industry which have any appreciable risk of unemployment. The scheme should not include any means of allowing an industry or other unit to derive any advantage from a risk of unemployment lower than the average (paragraphs 101-106).

There are considerable difficulties in the idea that contracting out should be allowed on the basis of compensation to the general fund, and we do not recommend it (paragraphs 107, 108).

We suggest that the two existing special schemes should be allowed to continue (paragraph 110).

The scheme should not be applied to agriculture or private domestic service (paragraphs 112, 113).

In regard to persons excluded from unemployment insurance by certificate of exemption, particularly permanent railway servants, we recommend that, in the circumstances, so long as they remain normally immune from unemployment, they should not be brought within the compulsory scheme (paragraphs 114, 115).

Where the conditions of an industry are such that persons engaged in it are normally not able to secure as much as 15 contributions a year, such persons should be able to obtain a certificate of exemption from the scheme for the future as long as this condition is satisfied. (paragraph 117).

Apprentices, whether indentured or not, should remain covered by the scheme on the same basis as at present (paragraph 118).

Trade Dispute Disqualification.—The question of the position of persons unemployed before a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute begins could be usefully explored by the Ministry in consultation with representatives of employers and employed (paragraph 137).

The reference in the existing disqualification to " grade or class of workers, members of which are participating in, or financing, or directly interested in the dispute " should be altered so as to refer only to members of the grade or class of workers in question at the premises at which the stoppage of work takes place (paragraph 138).

That part of the trade dispute provision which removes the disqualification in cases in which the employer has broken a national or group agreement should be deleted (paragraph 140). (*From " Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, February 19, 1927.*)

Efficiency in Industry

AID OF PSYCHOLOGY

A paper by Professor Frank Smith on " Psychology as an Aid to Efficiency and Economy in Industry " was presented at the last meeting of the North-East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders.

Professor Smith described the task of industrial psychology as being to investigate the various sources of loss and inefficiency from the human end. Some of the investigations are, primarily physiological and study the physical environment of the worker, attempting to discover what factors decrease his output, what is the best length of the work spell,

what are the effects of rest periods, what is the most productive length of the working day, and so on. In one munitions factory, where men were employed on heavy work, independent of machinery, the hours actually worked were reduced from 58·2 to 50·6 a week and the hourly output was increased by 39 per cent., which is equivalent to a total increase of 21 per cent. In another factory a reduction of hours halved the lost time due to irregular attendance. In a bleaching factory a twenty minutes' rest was introduced after each spell of eighty minutes' work, and a 60 per cent. increase in output was recorded. Involved in these investigations is the very complicated problem of fatigue, which is affected by many factors influencing the rise and fall of output at different times of the day, such as the "Monday effect," the "end spurt," and the increase of spoilt work at definite times of the day.

More technical is the study of the workers' movement in performing his task. In some cases the re-arrangement of the tools and bench has produced unexpectedly greater efficiency, but the chief problem in this field is to discover the rhythmical movement best adapted to the individual worker. The elimination of needless movements, especially unnecessary stooping or walking, the combination of several separate movements into a single movement, thus replacing angular movements by an uninterrupted circular one, the discovery of the individual's rhythm—all these have been followed by greater efficiency. In the packing of chocolates, an increased output of 35 per cent. is recorded, with far less fatigue of the workers. In sweet-dipping an increased output of 27 per cent. was obtained, but with fresh workers in a new room the output was actually increased 88 per cent. showing how harmful is the acquirement of a faulty technique at the outset. Similar results are recorded in many industries.

More purely psychological are the studies which investigate the methods of increasing the worker's interests, employing his intelligence, smoothing his relationship with the management, and understanding his mental attitude. The high turnover in industry (the number of men who leave their work) seems to be largely due to restlessness and the nursing of real or imaginary grievances. Unrest, which rose to such prominence in the latter years of the war, is still with us. Various experiments are recorded with different firms, but the conditions differ so widely that a uniform solution is probably impossible.

Investigations are necessarily piecemeal and analytical; yet each shows afresh how inextricably all the factors are bound up with one another. The problem begins in the relationship of education and industry, and a scientific method has still to be discovered for selecting workers for a given occupation and offering adequate guidance to young people who are about to begin work. Our present methods are largely empirical and our neglect of this problem is reflected in the large turnover of workers, the absences from work, the defective output, even the incidence of accidents and sickness. The National Institute of Industrial Psychology has begun a large inquiry in this field, and its interim report shows promise of some valuable results. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, February 19, 1927.*)

Trade Unions in Soviet Russia

[*Continued*]

In our last issue we gave the first of a series of articles summarising the proceedings of the Seventh Congress of Trade Unions in Russia, held recently at Moscow. This article dealt mainly with unemployment, safety, and general conditions of labour.

The second article, now published, deals mainly with wages. It is based on the discussions on a report on the industrial situation presented by Mr. Kouibychev, Chairman of the Supreme Economic Council, and a report by Mr. Andreev on policy in respect of wages and collective agreements.

PRODUCTION AND WAGES

The question of wages, it may be pointed out, was discussed at a moment when the new regime of economy, the lack of capital, the defective state of industrial equipment and the bad administration of undertakings made it particularly difficult to increase the remuneration of labour or even to maintain it at its existing level. The policy to be followed in this matter by the trade unions was considered from the following three points of view :

(1) The present position of State industry and the possibilities of its development ;

(2) The regulation of wages (*i.e.*, wage regulation by the State, collective agreements, etc.) ; and

(3) the relations between the trade unions and the directing organisations of State industry.

We summarise below the discussions on these three points.

THE INDUSTRIAL SITUATION

The industrial situation was summarised in the following terms by Mr. Kouibychev :

The first period of reconstruction after the years of communism and civil war is now over. Production, although still behind pre-revolution figures, is beginning to reach the 1913 level. The period 1925-26 showed an increase of 40 per cent. in this respect over 1924-25. This increase is due to the re-opening of a large number of undertakings which have been idle since the revolution, and to an intensification of output in undertakings already working.

Now, however, all possibilities of industrial development by means of the capital and equipment remaining over from the old regime are exhausted. " The old equipment," stated Mr. Kouibychev, " is almost entirely used up. We no longer possess the resources which allowed us to increase production in 1925-26. We must create something new, or re-organise the work, and make other efforts in order to increase production." Some such course is essential, for the country is suffering from a real crisis of under-production of industrial goods.

According to the scheme of production drawn up by the Soviet Government, industry must in 1926-27 increase its output by 18 per cent. Although this increase is not sufficient to meet the deficit of goods, even

so industry will be hard put it to carry out the programme. "The real evil from which almost all branches of industry are suffering," said Mr. Kouibychev, "is the serious lack of working capital, which is not sufficient to allow of the increase of production in the prescribed proportion."

Lack of working capital

On 1st October 1926 there was actually available for industry no more than 54·5 per cent. of the working capital which appeared on the balance sheets, which, so far from being an increase, is a reduction of 8 per cent. since 1925. In 1926-27 State industry will require 1,500,000,000 roubles for the reconstruction and repair of existing undertakings, the creation of new undertakings and the increase of working capital. This sum will be found partly by the State, which has inserted an item of 600,000,000 roubles in the budget for the purpose, and partly by the banks, in the form of loans and credits amounting to 300,000,000 roubles; finally, industry must increase its working capital by at least 500,000,000 roubles.

For this purpose the most strict economy is necessary, and also a reduction of cost prices. This reduction is the more necessary since, during the preceding period, production costs increased about 2 per cent. The high level of the cost of production has helped to increase selling prices, which are excessive and give rise to many complaints on the part of consumers. In these circumstances State industry, the whole object of which at the moment is to make profits, can increase wages only in those branches where they are obviously too low. Further, any increase in wages depends on the intensification of individual output, which has, to some extent, decreased in 1926.

"The main work before us," added Mr. Kouibychev, "should consist in increasing individual output more rapidly than wages." Excessive expenditure on labour, such as nurseries, schools, etc., will be reduced.

DELEGATES' CRITICISMS

Mr. Kouibychev's speech was seriously criticised at the Congress. Among other things the delegates pointed out that the wage policy of the Supreme Economic Council, which consisted in raising wages only after an increase in production, was often ill-considered.

It was agreed that equipment was old and worn out, and that the factories lacked modern machinery. In these circumstances, the worker could not indefinitely increase the physical effort required of him. "It is no secret to anyone," stated the delegate of the Tver trade unions, "that many of the measures taken to intensify work, to economise, etc., were only framed with the object of exerting pressure upon the physical strength of the worker. The same attention is not given to the question of the rationalisation of production."

Trade unionists fear that in the coming year the situation will be the same. Moreover, conditions of labour are such that in many cases the output of the worker is actually reduced. Undertakings do little to improve conditions of labour, and then only when "the situation is absolutely intolerable." Again, "any intensification of labour depends, and rightly should depend, on an improvement in conditions of labour."

Further, the directing organisations of nationalised industry have been accused of being themselves responsible for the recent falling off in output and for the high cost of production. Production programmes, it is stated, are drawn up too late. They are continually being amended, and this leads to confusion and to loss. The importation of the necessary equipment from abroad is badly organised and badly controlled. Money destined for the development of industry is sometimes expended at a loss on the construction of useless undertakings, or of undertakings, which, in existing circumstances, cannot satisfy the expectations formed of them.

It may be noted that several delegates pointed out that the regime of economy was often a mere pretext in industry for the reduction of contributions to occupational schools, workers' clubs, nurseries, ambulances, etc.

Finally it was stated during the discussion that there were again considerable delays in the payment of wages, particularly in the mining and metal working industries.

WAGE POLICY OF THE TRADE UNIONS

Mr. Tomsky, in the course of a speech, explained that, as regards wages, the Central Council of Russian Trade Unions had consistently acted on the indications of the Communist Party, and subordinated the interests of the workers to the interests of the State.

"Under the dictatorship of the proletariat," said Mr. Tomsky, "immediate interests must be subordinated to the future interests and requirements of the working class. All claims or requirements of an economic nature should be subordinated to the development of production." Thus, when, in the Spring of 1926, the cost of living rose considerably, involving a reduction (between 10 and 15 per cent.) in the real value of wages, and when certain trade unionists urged the Central Council to demand the maintenance of the existing level of wages, the Council refused to listen to them. The reason for this refusal was the danger to the chervonetz rouble, if its depreciation were officially recognised and if calculations were henceforth to be based on a fictitious rouble.

In view of the industrial situation referred to above, there can, for the moment, be no question of a general increase in wages. "Side by side with the general slackening in the development of production, an increase in wages must to some extent be retarded. We must, for the moment, see to it that wages are maintained at their existing level." Mr. Tomsky takes the view that the main point is to obtain a reduction in the cost of living by a better organisation of consumers' co-operative societies of the workers.

Levelling up of Wage Rates

In addition, the Central Council of Trade Unions proposes that there should be a certain equalisation of wages between workers in the various branches of industry, to be obtained by increasing the wages of workers who are less well paid, and reducing the excessive difference (almost as 1 is to 10) which exists between the wages of an ordinary labourer and those of a highly skilled worker. This inequality leads to friction and feuds between the workers, and also creates a very bad impression on foreign trade unionists. The Central Council is of opinion that, at the

very least, it is necessary to reduce this difference to more reasonable proportions.

Another question of importance which the Central Council submitted to the Congress was that of the State regulation of wages. Since the introduction of the " New Economic Policy " the State, which during the period of communism fixed wages for all classes of workers, employees and officials, abandoned this practice and left it to the trade unions to conclude collective labour agreements with undertakings or groups of undertakings, establishing wage rates as well as other conditions of labour. This freedom has been to some extent restricted as regards State officials and employees, whether employed in administration, industry or commerce. For some time the total sum available for wages has been fixed by the State, and there is some question of allowing the State the right of fixing definitely the number of officials and employees, as also the amount of wages to be paid for a given work.

As regards workers in State industry, the Central Council of Trade Unions proposed that the Congress should agree that henceforth the wage policy should be centralised, and that the directing organisations of State industry and the Soviet Government should determine, according to a general plan for each industry, the maximum sums for wages, which maxima should in no case be exceeded. These organisations would also be required to determine to what extent it might be possible to increase wages.

OPPOSITION TO STATE REGULATION

This latter question led to some lively criticisms in the Congress. Many trade unionists, and among them members of the Central Council, expressed a fear that the State might itself take in hand the regulation of wages. They considered that this was equivalent to the State fixing wages, and they feared that collective agreements would cease to be of any use.

Mr. Tomsky refuted these views, and stated that the only question at issue was that of legalising a *de facto* situation. For some time already, the Central Council, in agreement with the Soviet Government and with State industry, has been in the habit of deciding whether or no the demands of a given union should be supported, in view of the general economic situation and the situation of the branch of industry in question. The object was to regulate and not to fix wages.

These statements did not convince those trade unionists who were opposed to the regulation of wages by the State, since they considered that regulation was the first step in the return to the fixing of wages and of grades of work by the State.

That fear was confirmed by the representative of the employees' union, who protested energetically against the regulation of wages by the State, in view of the experiences of his own trade union in the matter. According to this delegate, the authority and importance of the trade union and its various organisations had been nullified by the application of a system of State wage regulation. " The regulation of wages by the State," he said, " may be summarised in the following way : The State fixes by Decree the

numbers and categories of employees in each undertaking, as well as the wage attached to each category. In these circumstances, it is impossible for the trade union to discuss the matter, and the labour agreement arrived at by free discussion ceases to exist."

Some Abuses

The management of undertakings, it was stated, often demand overtime from the workers (a ten hour day and over) without extra payment, on the pretext that the law fixes wages once for all, without any reference to hours of work. In other cases, when the undertaking is in a position to increase wages, the management refuses to discuss the matter with the trade union, on the pretext that the trade union is no longer concerned with wage questions.

The result is that " the authority of the trade union has waned since the introduction of State regulation of wages. Wage-earners are less and less tending to ask the trade unions to defend their interests. On the contrary, we note that the workers are more often submitting petitions to the management, without going through the trade union, ' humbly requesting ' that wages should be increased." Workers are also hesitating to join the trade unions, and trade unionists are abstaining from active work in their organisations. Meetings and lectures are no longer attended, since the trade union has not the power to defend the immediate interests of its members.

The employees' delegate concluded by urging the Congress to reject State regulation of wages.

On the other hand, the delegates representing workers in heavy industry, and in particular those branches of industry where wages were below the average, declared themselves in favour of State regulation, in the hope that this would allow of the levelling-up of wage rates in the industry.

PRINCIPLE OF STATE REGULATION ACCEPTED

After animated discussion, the Congress decided by a small majority to accept the principle of State regulation, stipulating, however, that the Central Council of Trade Unions and the central committee of each trade union should be consulted whenever the State organisations concerned were drawing up schemes for the distribution or increase of wages.

Among other wage questions dealt with by the Congress may be mentioned the wage scale. The Congress decided that it would be desirable to introduce greater elasticity into the wage scale. Thus, each trade union should be entitled to draw up its own wage scale, whereas at present there is a single model scale for the whole of industry. A special scale should also be created for technical staff, engineers, foremen, supervisors, etc., and for young persons and employees.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS AND DISPUTES

The question of the relations between the trade unions and State industry, which arises at all trade union meetings, was also discussed at the Congress.

Ever since State industry has been working on the principles of " commercial output," the task of the trade unions as regards the protection

of the workers and of wages has been correspondingly increased, particularly during the conclusion of collective labour agreements. The regime of economy, the necessity of increasing working capital, the lack of capital, etc., have compelled State industry to reduce expenses as far as possible.

These tactics have been particularly noticeable in the drawing up of conditions of labour for the collective agreement. Undertakings are more and more tending to reduce expenditure on labour by opposing any increase in wages, and above all, any other form of expenditure for the benefit of the workers, such as working clothes, technical measures for safety, occupational schools, etc. The result is frequent and numerous disputes, the number of which is still increasing.

Mr. Andreev, reporter to the Congress on this question, stated that certain officials concerned with the direction of State undertakings " are adopting a mistaken attitude in labour questions. They are endeavouring to ignore the wage question altogether, and are concerned only with the management of the undertaking, without any concern for the conditions of labour and existence of the worker."

Many of the delegates confirmed this state of affairs, and pointed out that the managements of State undertakings were appealing to the regime of economy in order to reduce expenditure on the protection of the workers and on wages. It frequently happens that clauses in collective agreements, or even provisions of the Labour Code, are not observed by the responsible heads of undertakings. Even the decisions of arbitration courts, and agreements concluded by the Commissariat of Labour for the protection of the workers, are sometimes ignored.

On the other hand, Mr. Andreev admitted that the trade unions are sometimes responsible for an unwarrantable interference in the technical working of undertakings, or for exaggerated demands which it is impossible to satisfy in existing economic conditions.

Increasing Recourse to Arbitration

All this explains the frequency of labour disputes. Among the disputes, small individual disputes or disputes concerning one or two workers only are predominant and are becoming of increasing importance. The main questions at issue are dismissals, compensation for holidays not taken, for overtime, etc. Most of the disputes could usually have been settled in the joint conciliation courts, but the parties concerned are showing an increasingly marked tendency to submit all disputes to arbitration.

This comes from the feebleness and lack of authority of the conciliation organisations, and also from the desire of the responsible heads of State industry to be covered by a formal decision of the court, in order to explain their action to the higher authorities. Cases are even fairly numerous when the parties concerned appeal directly to the Commissary of Labour to settle the dispute.

This situation is causing anxiety, not only to the Commissariat of Labour, but also to the trade unions, since the accumulation of disputes in the courts makes the procedure very slow and impracticable. This recourse

to arbitration is undermining the authority of the trade unions, upsetting the workers, and hindering the proper development of industry.

Delegates to the Congress pointed out that the representatives of the trade unions in the conciliation courts often gave proof of feebleness and ignorance, and that the procedure for conciliation could be improved and popularised only if trade unions were more careful in choosing the delegates to represent them on the joint committees and in the conciliation chambers.

THIRD ARTICLE

The present article deals with the activity of trade unions as regards industrial undertakings carried on by private enterprise or under concessions, a matter which is more and more engaging the attention of the unions and their press.

We give first a short account of the present situation, followed by a statement of the policy of the Central Council of Trade Unions as embodied in a circular letter to trade unions and in declarations made to the Congress by Mr. Dogadov, a member of the Central Council and one of the reporters to the Congress on the position and policy of trade unionism in Russia.

TRADE UNIONISM AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Although at the outset of the "New Economic Policy," that is to say, immediately after the re-establishment of private trade, the trade unions were in a strong position in relation to private employers, this is no longer the case to-day. Various causes render difficult the operations of the unions in private undertakings.

For example, in many cases the conditions of labour are better and wages are higher in private undertakings than in State undertakings. This is partly due to the fact that private enterprises are more liable to inspection by the Factory Inspectorate and to prosecution, and partly to the fact that they are anxious to secure good workers. Private undertakings choose their workers for preference among the peasant population, with a view to enlisting workers who are ill-acquainted with social legislation and with the operations of trade unions. When the trade union has succeeded in obtaining an influence over the workers, and the workers begin to be troublesome to the employer, he shuts down his works, and re-opens them after he has engaged other workers.

The tactics adopted by private employers in relation to the workers vary according to the nature of the undertaking and the standard of intelligence and education of the workers. The policy followed with regard to peasants and home workers is generally that of direct or indirect intimidation, mainly by the threat of dismissal, which is peculiarly effective in view of the unemployment situation. In industrial undertakings, the private employer follows a different line. Sometimes he tries to alienate the workers from their unions; sometimes he tries to conciliate the militant trade unionists. For this purpose he pursues on a large scale the policy of giving advances on account of wages, which, while rendering the worker absolutely dependent upon the employer economically, is often of considerable material assistance to him, and induces him to regard his employer almost as his benefactor

Cases have been noted where a private employer has induced his workers to belong to a trade union, and even to the Communist Party, with the object of being favourably considered by these organisations and of obtaining a sense of greater freedom in his treatment of his workers.

In private undertakings, also, the workers have longer holidays than those prescribed in the Labour Code ; they enjoy holidays on religious fete days (which are ignored by the State undertakings), and in various other ways they obtain favours and advantages.

Workers' Support for Employers

These tactics generally have the desired result. The worker becomes to some extent attached to his employer, and hesitates to complain when there is any violation of the labour agreement. It often happens that workers take the side of the employer. In one textile factory the workers, ignoring their works council, decided to ask the authorities to reduce their employer's income tax. The workers have even lent money to the employer.

In order to conciliate the responsible trade unionists (delegates, members of works councils, etc.), the private employer loads them with privileges, sometimes going so far as to give them special additional wages and to exempt them from all work in the undertaking. Cases are not exceptional in which trade unionists allow themselves to be corrupted in this way and agree to shut their eyes to what is going on.

" It often happens," writes a trade unionist, " that not only the workers, but the representatives and delegates of the trade unions and the works councils, allow themselves to be influenced by the employer. In some factories such trade unionists do not resist the most flagrant violations by the employer of the regulations for the protection of the workers, or of collective agreements."

In undertakings carried on by foreigners under concessions, the situation is not quite the same. There, also, there may be noted indirect attempts at corruption of trade union representatives ; but, generally speaking, the conditions of labour in such undertakings are comparatively good ; there may, indeed, often be observed in these cases a certain extravagance in the demands of the trade unions, which do not take sufficient account of the economic circumstances of such undertakings.

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S CIRCULAR

On the eve of the Congress, the All-Russian Central Council of Trade Unions published a circular letter addressed to all trade unions in private or concession undertakings, setting out the defects of present trade union policy, and laying down the general lines which the Central Council believes it should follow in the matter.

In view of the fact that Mr. Dogadov referred to the circular in his speech to the Congress, and urged delegates to read it, we summarise its contents below.

After pointing out that the trade unions have a very important duty to fulfil in private and concession undertakings, that of " educating the workers in the spirit of the class struggle," the Central Council of Trade

Unions observes that " the trade unions have not done all that they could and should have done in this direction in existing circumstances."

Policy in Private Undertakings

Proceeding, the Central Council refers to cases of the corruption of trade unionists by private employers, and to the lack of firmness in the attitute of certain trade unions. It sharply reproves those trade unionists who are endeavouring to organise in private or concession undertakings, on the analogy of the practice in State undertakings, joint conferences with the management for the purpose of discovering the best methods of organising production and increasing output.

Although this is just and necessary in nationalised undertakings, where the object is to improve output and to lower cost prices, it cannot be tolerated in private undertakings, where the trade unions should confine themselves to the defence of their members, and not deal with the questions which concern the undertaking and its working. " It must always be remembered," states the circular, " that in a private undertaking it is exclusively the business of the employer to deal with the interests of his undertaking, and it should be remembered that such interests are opposed to those of the working classes."

Policy in Concession Undertakings

In concession undertakings (continues the circular) the policy of the trade unions should be somewhat different. Although the concessionnaire is the enemy of the working class, and although the working class should do nothing to improve the output of the undertaking, " it is important that the trade unions should not forget that the working class and the Soviet State are interested in attracting foreign capital (up to a point, and under State control) towards those branches of the national economy which, for the time being, cannot be developed or exploited with the resources of the State alone. It is also essential that in concession undertakings the best methods of work should be employed.

In these circumstances, the trade unions should not confront the concessionnaires with claims which might lead to the closing down of the enterprise, and should in no case oppose the introduction of improved technical methods, even if such improved methods involve the dismissal of a certain number of workers."

Finally, the trade unions should conduct an energetic campaign against all attempts by the managements, in private or concession undertakings, to diminish the authority of the trade unions, particularly by appealing directly to the higher trade union organisations over the heads of the works councils or the trade union delegates.

NEED FOR GREATER TRADE UNION ACTIVITY

Mr. Dogadov, in his report, drew the attention of the Congress to the importance of this circular from the point of view of trade union activity in private undertakings. He emphasized the fact that this was the first time that precise indications had been given to the trade unions as to the plan they should follow in this respect. " It is only recently," he

stated, " that we (the Central Council), have drawn the attention of the trade unions to the necessity of intensifying their activity in private or concession undertakings."

According to Mr. Dogadov, there are about 200,000 trade unionists working in private or concession undertakings of any importance. From April 1925 to the end of March 1926 the number of these trade unionists increased by 4·2 per cent. only. About 86 per cent. of all the workers employed in these undertakings belong to trade unions. On the other hand, of the foreign workers in concession undertakings, barely 12 per cent. have become members of trade unions.

" We have found," said Mr. Dogadov, " that the work of the trade unions in private and concession undertakings suffers from many defects. There are a number of organisations which fail to understand the difference between trade union activity in a State undertaking and in private undertakings. For example, the trade unions are making a serious point of the importance of output in private enterprise, and are organising joint production conferences with the management with a view to intensifying production, etc."

The policy followed by the trade unions in undertakings which belong to foreign concessionnaires, is considered to be mistaken and sometimes even incompatible with the interests of the State. Mr. Dogadov holds the view that the trade unions should take more account of economic conditions and of the advantages which might accrue to the State from the concession undertakings. " Trade unions which are working in concession undertakings are gravely misled in pursuing a clumsy and ignorant policy. They imagine that, since their duty is to defend the interests of the worker whenever they find themselves face to face with an enemy of the working classes, they have only to attack the concessionnaire, regardless of any other consideration. All this shows that, up to now, responsible trade unionists operating in private and concession undertakings have not yet understood what is their real work in this most important field of trade union activity."

CRITICISMS AND DEMANDS

Several delegates contended that the trade unions were not paying sufficient attention to workers employed by private employers and by concessions.

Although, up to the present, conditions of labour had been better in private undertakings than in State undertakings, there was a tendency for the situation to change. Profiting by the unemployment crisis, private employers were putting an increasing pressure on their workers, who were finding it more and more difficult to defend their interests, the more so as they realised that they were not adequately supported by the trade unions.

Trade unionists in private undertakings urge that labour legislation should be broadened and made more explicit in all those parts which refer

to them and their work. They are demanding that private employers should be compelled to engage their workers solely through the labour exchanges, and that the trade union organisations should defend the interests of the workers more energetically and more efficiently. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 24 and 31, 1927.*)

Japanese Cotton Spinning and Weaving

GREAT PROGRESS DURING AND SINCE THE WAR

A highly informative report on the cotton spinning and weaving industry in Japan, by Mr. W. B. Cunningham, His Majesty's Consul at Osaka, has just been issued by the Department of Overseas Trade.

It is noteworthy that, notwithstanding the effects of the post-war slump and the earthquake, the cotton spinners and weavers have resumed progress to such an extent that the output in 1925 of both yarns and textiles attained record figures. The fact that this industry alone among Japanese industries has emerged unweakened from the post-war period is ascribed by Mr. Cunningham to three causes—namely, the natural suitability of the country, the excellent manner in which the industry is organized and managed, and the strong foundations on which it is based. The industry has, so far as can be ascertained, never been in receipt of any direct aid from the Government, though the transport of raw cotton to Japan and of cotton yarn and piece-goods from Japan is effected by subsidized steamship lines.

INCREASE IN CAPITAL AND EARNINGS

Among the many illuminating tabular statements included in the report is one showing, over a number of years since 1903, the growth of capital and plant of the member companies of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association, which controls at least 90 per cent. of the total number of spindles of the country. From this table it is seen that between 1913 and 1925 the total number of ring spindles increased from 2,365,000 to 5,152,000 and of doubling spindles from 321 to 752, while the number of looms rose from 24,224 to 68,160. It should be explained that the Association controls between 40 per cent. and 50 per cent. of the power looms utilized for cloth of greater width than the standard Japanese width of 15 inches, thus holding a preponderating share in the manufacture of the more important lines made for export.

A comparison covering a period of ten years is also given of the financial condition of the spinning companies. During the decade 1916 to 1925 the authorized and paid-up capital increased over four times, the value of fixed assets nearly as much, and reserves more than five times. At the same time, very large amounts were written off for depreciation, etc. An examination of this comparative statement indicates that the industry reached the zenith of its prosperity in 1919 and 1920, during which period the total gross earnings of the spinning companies amounted to over 45 per cent. of their total paid-up capital, while their net profits amounted to nearly 40 per cent. The second half of 1920 witnessed the end of the post-war boom, but it is stated that, owing to the foresight shown during

the years of prosperity the industry is still as a whole in a very strong position. In this connexion it should be noted that although, as a result of the earthquake and fire in September 1923, about 900,000 spindles, or approximately one-fifth of the total, were either totally destroyed or temporarily put out of action, the spinning companies had by the end of 1924 more than made up these losses. At the same time, many companies which were formed either during the war or during the years of prosperity that followed it have been unable to withstand the depression of the last few years, and not a few of them are in a difficult position.

RECENT DIFFICULTIES

It should here be emphasized that the year 1925 is the latest to which the foregoing account refers. The main body of Mr. Cunningham's report does not deal with the situation arising from the fall in the price of raw cotton. This combined with the trouble in China, has, it is explained in an appendix, placed the spinning companies in a very awkward predicament. His Majesty's Consul says that the larger concerns will no doubt be able to stand the strain, but the smaller mills will probably suffer severely, and it would not be surprising if some of them experience serious difficulty in tiding over the situation. Already twelve of the companies belonging to the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association have reported a loss for the first half-term of 1926. Exports of yarns have fallen off, and of piece-goods there has been a large increase in the stocks on hand. As at such times Japanese manufacturers and exporters are apt to be tempted to dispose of their stocks at a sacrifice, it is suggested that the situation during the next few months will deserve careful attention.

His Majesty's Consul gives details of the quantities and values of raw cotton imported into Japan from the various sources of supply since 1913. In 1925 those of American cotton were 3,799,000 piculs (picul=approximately 133 lb.), as compared with 2,370,000 piculs in 1924 and 1,720,000 in 1913. The figures for Indian cotton were in 1925, 6,155,000; in 1924, 4,539,000; and in 1913, 4,004,000 piculs. The increase in the imports of American cotton is due to the greater use of this staple for the spinning of yarn of medium counts. It is thought probable that there will shortly be a great development of direct imports of East African cotton into Japan owing to the inauguration of a regular monthly service of steamers between Osaka and East African ports, largely for the purpose of facilitating the traffic, on the one hand, in this raw material, and, on the other hand, in the manufactured cotton goods for the East African markets. This service is receiving a Government subsidy of 400,000 yen (about £40,000) per annum.

Mr. Cunningham says that the Japanese spinners are supremely conscious of the fact that they are so entirely dependent on foreign countries for the raw material required, and as a result considerable attention is being directed to the development of cotton production in Korea and Manchuria, while there are also schemes under consideration for the encouragement of cotton planting by Japanese colonists in various South American countries, notably Peru and Brazil. A new company was recently formed in Tokyo for the purpose of operating in Peru, while another company is, with the support of the Government, spending a considerable sum of

money in investigating the possibilities of cotton production under Japanese auspices in Brazil.

MORE MEDIUM COUNTS

In a section of the report dealing in detail with the spinning branch of the industry a statistical account is given of the range of counts spun, the cotton used for different counts, the distribution and use of the yarn, and the exports of the principal counts to Japan's chief markets. While there has been a considerable increase in the proportion of yarns of medium count produced, more than half the yarn spun is still of coarse count, although there is a tendency towards the production of finer yarns.

The figures indicate clearly the extent to which Japan's export trade in medium counts has developed during the past decade, exports of yarn under this heading showing a marked tendency to increase, whereas exports of coarser counts show a falling off. The figures also show that in the finer counts of yarn Japan's exports, although relatively unimportant, are increasing.

Mr. Cunningham follows with a similar description, illustrated by tabular statements, of the cotton hosiery industry, and a further chapter dealing with the weaving mills. Attention is called to the substantial increase which has taken place in Japan's exports of cotton piece-goods during the past few years. Sheeting, for instance, is made very largely for export, though small quantities are sent to Korea ; the same applies to drills ; satins are made mainly for the China market, as are also jeans, though in both cases the cloth is frequently dyed or printed before export ; shirtings are used both at home and for export ; nankeens are mainly for export to China ; striped fabrics largely for foreign markets, principally the Netherlands East Indies and India (for re-export). Crepe and flannel are made principally for home consumption, though exports are increasing.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS

Summarizing the returns of the exports of cotton piece-goods from Japan to various foreign countries between 1916 and 1925, the report points out that the general improvement shown in the export figures is all the more noticeable when it is remembered that the figures for the years from 1916 to 1920 cover the war period during which Japan, finding herself freed from competition with other manufacturing nations, was able to obtain a footing in Asiatic markets other than China, Hongkong, and (to a lesser extent) the Netherlands East Indies and British India, where she already had some share of the cotton piece-goods trade. Thus exports to Africa and to South America first assumed importance in 1920, while exports to Australia have never reached the figures attained in 1918 and 1920.

Immediately after this period (*i.e.*, in 1921) there was an enormous drop in the value of exports, amounting to rather more than 42 per cent., and it was not until 1925 that the figures for 1920 were reached and passed. Moreover, since the war Japan has not only been able to equal and exceed her war-time trade with China, India, and Hongkong, but she has at the same time consolidated her position in other markets, such as the British Colonies in South and East Africa and the South American countries (notably the Argentine Republic). Exports to Africa

in 1925 were more than six times as high as in 1920, and though they represented about 5 per cent. only of the total, it is to be anticipated that the export trade in this direction will increase, as Japanese goods are said to be increasingly popular in these markets, for which they appear to be suitable, while strenuous efforts are being made on the part of exporting firms to make their goods known. These remarks, moreover, apply also to other markets, such as Persia, Asia Minor, and the Balkan States, with which Japan is doing her utmost to establish closer relations, a policy which, it is anticipated, will result in a far greater volume of business with these countries than has hitherto been possible.

PRODUCTION COSTS AND LABOUR

In a chapter dealing with costs of production and conditions in the mills the Consul points out how the great extension of electricity has facilitated the operation of the factories with a minimum of cost and labour. The charge of the mills for electric power in Osaka is very little over a halfpenny per kilowatt hour ; in the Tokyo district it is about the same and in Ogaki it is even less.

In the efficiency of the Japanese cotton operatives there appears to have been little change during the past few years. The great difficulty has always been the comparatively short length of time the women operatives remain in the mill. With regard to the male operatives conditions are somewhat better and many of them stay some years and obtain considerable knowledge of the work. Between 1920 and 1925 there was a decrease of between four and five in the number of operatives required to tend 1,000 spindles. This must be regarded as a distinct improvement, though it may to a certain extent be due to the tendency to produce finer counts. The improvement is about 16·5 per cent. Similar comparisons with regard to weaving show an improvement of 28·2 per cent. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, January 22, 1927.*)

Joint Committees for Spanish Railways

On 9th January last the *Gaceta de Madrid* published a Royal Decree creating permanent Joint Committees of employers and workers for all Spanish companies exploiting one or more railway lines.

Neighbouring companies owning less than 500 kilometres of line may form themselves into groups for this purpose.

Each Joint Committee will be composed of an equal number of employers' and workers' representatives. Substitute members may attend the meetings in an advisory capacity, but without a vote, unless they are actually replacing the titular members.

A Railway Conciliation and Arbitration Court will be set up at Madrid, under the chairmanship of the President of the Court of Justice, with four other members, two representing employers and two the workers. The members of the Court will be elected every five years.

Awards of the Joint Committees and of the Conciliation Court will be binding on employers and workers alike. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 14, 1927.*)

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Returns for First Quarter 1927

AN INCREASE OF ONE PER CENT. IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1926. The latest information for the first quarter of the present year is summarised in three tables on pages 640 to 655 of this issue. Table I gives the names of the Federations or Associations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the names of the principal office-bearers of each Federation, and the names of the affiliated Unions in each case. Table II gives, by localities or centres, the names of all Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the number of members in each Union and the names and addresses of the principal office-bearers. Table III shows the rates of membership fees for different classes of members, the average monthly income for the latest quarter for which information is available and the average monthly expenditure in the same way for each of the Unions given in Table II.

There were no outstanding features in connexion with the Trade Union movement in the Bombay Presidency during the quarter under review. The total membership of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency continued to show that same steady increase which has marked the development of Trade Unionism in this Presidency for the last one year. As compared with 74,875 trade unionists in December 1926, the number reported on 1st March 1927 was 75,602 or an increase of 0·97 per cent. over the figure of the previous quarter and an increase of 26·97 per cent. over that of March last year. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions in the Presidency since June 1922 :—

Summary Table showing the membership of the Unions

Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
June 1922 ..	22	57,914	..	Dec 1924..	36	52,227	+10·7
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	— 8·87	Mar 1925..	36	51,625	— 1·25
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	— 2·47	June 1925..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	— 5·45	Sept 1925..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+ 5·08	Dec 1925..	38	49,318	— 8·97
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	—18·77	Mar 1926..	51	59,544	+20·73
Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+10·54	June 1926..	53	64,572	+ 8·44
Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5·4	Sept 1926..	56	72,411	+12·14
June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2·5	Dec 1926..	56	74,875	+ 3·4
Sept 1924 ..	21	47,242	— 5·0	Mar 1927..	56	75,602	+ 0·97

The total number of Unions stands at the same figure as that reported in the December issue of the *Labour Gazette, viz.* 56. Out of this number

there are 22 Unions in Bombay City, 9 Unions in Ahmedabad and 25 Unions in the rest of the Presidency. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City rose from 47,068 to 49,140 or by 4·4 per cent. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions fell from 18,814 to 17,645 which was almost entirely due to a fall in the membership of the Weavers' Union from 2,400 to 1,000. The number of members in the Unions in the rest of the Presidency fell from 8,993 to 8,817 or by 1·96 per cent.

The information in connexion with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency including Sind. The information for all the Unions affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association and the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union is procured from time to time from the Head Offices of these associations in Bombay. Every endeavour is made to include in the Quarterly Review all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, but it often happens that some Union or Unions do not notify their existence to the authorities concerned with the collection of the necessary information. It would be advisable both in the interests of the Unions themselves and of the Labour Office, if the persons who are concerned with the creation of new Unions notify their formation either to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence (Labour Office) at Bombay or to the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad.

Federations of Labour Unions

Table I on pages 640 and 641 of this issue shows that there are 5 Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—(1) The Central Labour Board in Bombay ; (2) the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association with its head office in Bombay ; (3) the Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union also with its head office in Bombay ; (4) the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union with its head office in Bombay ; and (5) the Labour Union in Ahmedabad. The last is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. For all practical purposes, however, it may be considered as a Federation. The constitution of the first three Federations and the terms of affiliation of each of their members was fully described in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 and March 1926.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union which had been reported as a Federation of the three Unions of the Bombay Port Trust workers has now decided not to function as a Federation but as the Central Council of the Bombay Port Trust Employees. The Council will be composed of representatives from each of the three Port Trust Unions and will function only where the interests of all the workers of the different departments of the Bombay Port Trust are concerned. The constitution of the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union has not yet been decided upon. In the present article it is only necessary to deal with those Federations whose activities were of particular interest during the quarter under review.

The Central Labour Board

The Board carried on intensive propaganda during the quarter under review in endeavouring to organise the workpeople in different industries and different establishments into Unions. It is reported that it has succeeded in organising (1) a Press Workers' Union ; and (2) a Union of the employees of the Matheran Steam Tramway. As usual it carried on its Purity Mission Campaign and continued to give lectures on temperance, thrift and hygiene.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association.—The most important event during the quarter under review from the viewpoint of the members of this Association was the nomination by Government of their Honorary Secretary, Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., to the Bombay Legislative Council as one of three members to represent the interests of labour in the Bombay Presidency. The two other seats were filled by the nomination of Mr. S. K. Bole, Secretary of the Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha and Mr. Syed Munawar, B.A., General Secretary of the Indian Seamen's Union. At a meeting of the Managing Committee of the Association held in December 1926, one of the main subjects under discussion was the question of the large arrears due from some of the branches. An appeal was made to the members to bestir themselves and show more vigour in making recoveries of arrears.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.—This Union held its eighth annual general meeting on the 5th February 1927 at Girgaum with Mr. V. G. Dalvi, Bar.-at-Law, in the chair. The meeting authorised two representatives of the Union to proceed to Delhi with a view to acquainting the members of the Legislative Assembly with the demands of postmen and lower grade staff. Certain changes in the existing rules of the Union which were necessitated by change in its constitution were passed and a new rule to the following effect was carried : " that an heir of a deceased member shall be given Rs. 25 and a retiring member Rs. 20 if their subscription is not in arrears for more than three months." The statements of the accounts for the year ending 31st March 1926 show that the total income of the Association during the year amounted to Rs. 6269-12-8 which includes an amount of Rs. 2297-12-0 shown as "outstandings recoverable." The expenditure amounted to Rs. 4592-11-2 of which an amount of Rs. 1406-2-0 was paid as bonuses on death and retirement. The excess of income over expenditure amounting to Rs. 1677-1-6 was transferred to the capital account. The balance sheet shows that the amount standing at the credit of the capital fund account amounts to Rs. 19,555-13-2. Assets include Post Office Cash Certificates to the value of Rs. 7500, Fixed Deposits with the Central Bank of India, Limited, amounting to Rs. 5500, shares in the Co-operative Foundry valued at Rs. 519 and cash with the Bank and on hand amounting to Rs. 2254-1-7. Assets also include an item of Rs. 666-5-0 representing amounts granted to members as loans.

The Ahmedabad Labour Union.—The Labour Investigator at Ahmedabad reports that the normal activities of the Union continued as usual. The chief items of interest during the quarter under report were (1) the formation of a Doffers Union ; (2) greater vigour in the activities of the Winders'

Union and the Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union ; and (3) the assistance rendered to workers outside Ahmedabad. The Doffers' Union was formed with the object of bringing together half-timers in mills and providing them with games, amusements, general instruction, etc. This is not, however, a regular Union on the lines of other unions. The membership of the Winders' Union and Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union increased by 10 and 80, respectively, as a result of an intensive campaign amongst those workers. The winders, however, did not take as much interest in the Union as they might.

The assistant secretary of the Union went to Broach at the request of the workers to help them in getting compensation for the dependents of those who died as a result of the fire in the Whittle Mills. He also went to Indore to assist the newly established Labour Union in that centre. One of the clerks of the Ahmedabad Union has been deputed to be in charge of the Union's activities at Indore. Eighty per cent. of the labourers in Indore are reported as having joined the new Union. It has opened day and night schools and the jobbers and mukadams of the Indore mills are said to be taking a very great interest in trade-unionism.

The Union has just published its statements of accounts for the year ending 31st December 1925. The statement shows that during the last four years there was an excess of expenditure of Rs. 33,607 under the head " Schools " and a similar excess of Rs. 23,345 under " Hospital Accounts." In accordance with the resolution dated 29th August 1925, it was decided to meet these amounts from the capital account and to make the different Unions share the expenditure according to their contributions to the common Fund. The statement for the individual Unions show that the revenue of the Weavers' Union during the year under report amounted to Rs. 13,591 as against an expenditure of Rs. 25,048. The deficit of Rs. 11,457 was met by re-appropriation from the capital fund account. The income of the Throstle Union (Kalupur) amounted to Rs. 11,676 from subscriptions and Rs. 3,363 from other sources, bringing the total revenue during the year to Rs. 15,039. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 29,389 and the deficit of Rs.14,350 was met from the capital fund account. The Raipur Branch of the Throstle Union reported a revenue of Rs. 2569 in subscriptions and Rs. 1118 from other sources as against an expenditure of Rs. 9876 and a deficit of Rs. 6189 which was similarly dealt with. The income of the Card-Room Union amounted to Rs. 8103 as against an expenditure of Rs. 14,609 and a deficit of Rs. 6506. These large deficits as already stated are due to the excess expenditure under " Schools " and " Hospitals."

The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.—The officials of this Union state that they have been able to make no progress during the quarter under review either in the work of re-organising the Federation or consolidating individual Unions owing to the silence of the Railway Authorities with regard to the several representations put up by the Federation for the removal of specific grievances. The Federation has also addressed several letters to the Railway Authorities asking for recognition of their individual Unions but have so far received no reply whatever to either the representations made for recognition or to those made for removal of grievances.

PROGRESS OF INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY

The Bombay Textile Labour Union.—The membership of the Bombay Textile Labour Union rose from 9,640 to 9,766 during the quarter. Receipts averaged about Rs. 1,500 per month and expenditure to about Rs. 850 per month. The excess of income over expenditure of the Union during its first year's working amounted to over Rs. 10,000. During the quarter under review the Union held five propaganda meetings and nine election meetings. It organised relief work for the benefit of the strikers in the Emperor Edward Mill Strike during February and rations were distributed to strikers on two occasions. The Union sent two representatives from amongst the textile workers in Bombay City to the recent meeting of the Executive Council of the All India Trade Union Congress held at Calcutta and two delegates were nominated for the Seventh Session of the All India Trade Union Congress held at Delhi. From the 1st February the Union has started an Anglo-Vernacular Night School at Kurla where 20 workers are reported to have joined the English Classes and more than 40 workers and their children the Vernacular Classes. The number of complaints registered with the Union during the quarter amounted to 71 of which 4 proved successful, 3 were dropped and 64 are still pending. It is a matter of considerable satisfaction to the Textile Labour Union that 5 members of its Committee have found representation in the Legislative Assembly and in the Bombay Legislative Council. Mr. N. M. Joshi, the President of the Union, has been nominated by the Government of India to the Legislative Assembly ; Messrs. S. K. Bole and Syed Munawar have been nominated by the Government of Bombay to the Bombay Legislative Council ; and Messrs. R. S. Asavale and F. J. Ginwalla have been elected to the Bombay Legislative Council by the Bombay City, North, constituency.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Limited.—The number of members standing on the rolls of the Society on the 31st December 1926 amounted to 2,246 as compared with 2,337 reported in the previous review. The following table shows the distribution of the members over the various railways in India :—

Railway Administration	Class of members					Total number of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
G. I. P. Railway	832	73	36	28	42	1 011
B. B & C. I. Railway	67	18	13	24	27	149
M. & S. M. Railway	53	37	28	117	59	294
S. I. Railway	52	14	15	8	13	102
N. W. Railway	87	5	8	14	1	115
N. G. S. Railway	31	21	23	66	18	159
E. I Railway	192	12	4	23	11	242
O. & R. Railway	14	13	3	2	2	34
Other Railways	52	18	24	40	6	140
Total ..	1 380	211	154	322	179	2,246

The numbers of members of the different classes shown against each Railway are those who definitely belong to one or the other of the 52 branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. The number of members on the rolls of the Society's Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund amounted to 1,562 as on 31st October 1926. The Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund had 100 members and the Family Benefit Fund 443 members on the same date. The average monthly income during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 2,550 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 2,300.

Indian Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 15,064 to 15,145. The departmental secretary of the saloon branch of the Union reports that the Union experienced great difficulty during the last three months in finding employment for its members on account of the fact that the P. & O. and B. I. Steam Navigation Companies declined to forward any of their requisitions for Saloon Crew to the Union until such time as the President of the Union, Mr. J. J. Athaide, ceased to take an interest in its activities. Mr. Athaide has now resigned his Office as President of the Union and a movement has been started to amalgamate the two Seamen's Unions.

The Seamen's Union.—The Seamen's Union has increased its membership from 6,500 to 8,000 during the last three months and its revenue from Rs. 641 per month to Rs. 1,696 per month during the quarter under review. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,507 per month.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandals.—The President of the Chinchpokli Mandal, Mr. D. A. Bhatawadekar, reports that he does not intend to continue his Union on a separate basis and that he has decided to merge his Union into the other Mahamandals which are controlled by Mr. D. R. Mayekar. A meeting of the members of the three Mandals is shortly to be held with a view to union and the opening up of several centres as has been done by the Bombay Textile Labour Union.

The membership of the Prabhadevi Mandal fell from 1,123 to 1,012 and that of the Ghorupdeo Mandal increased from 446 to 649. These figures represent the actual effective paying memberships as these two Unions only continue the names of those members on their rolls who pay their subscriptions regularly month by month. Any members who are in arrears with their subscriptions are immediately removed from the membership rolls. The school started by the Prabhadevi Mandal in May 1926 for adult workers on a fee of two annas per month has now been made free, because the landlord of the premises in which the school is situated has agreed to charge no rent. An average of 35 workers is reported as attending the school every day and primary education in the vernacular is imparted. The Union also contemplates opening a new school at Dadar. Five complaints were dealt with during the quarter under review, out of which the Union was successful in procuring a favourable settlement in three cases. Two complaints are still pending.

Government Peons' and Menials' Union.—The Government of Bombay accorded official recognition to the Union in a Government Resolution dated 9th February 1927. The Resolution reads as follows :—

" The Governor in Council is pleased to accord official recognition to the Government Peons' and Menials' Service Union, Bombay. This

order is issued after consulting and with the concurrence of the Honourable Ministers." Recognition from the Government of India is still pending but the Officials of the Union hope that in view of the fact that the Government of Bombay have recognised the Union, the Government of India will also follow in their footsteps. The distribution of the members over different Government offices is as follows :—

New Custom House..	141
Income Tax Office	110
High Court	89
Old Custom House..	74
Secretariat	70
Accountant General's Office	48
Small Causes Court..	40
Public Works Department, Secretariat ..	24
Police Courts	3
Total ..	599

The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 2,064 to 2,300 during the quarter under review. The average monthly income now amounts to Rs. 654 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 248. The Co-operative Credit Society has an effective membership of 98 members. The amount issued in loans to its members during the last three months was Rs. 652. The statements of accounts as adopted at the seventh annual general meeting of the Union held in January show that the total income during the year ending 31st March 1926 amounted to Rs. 6,056-6-0 of which Rs. 5,181-9-0 was realised in subscription fees from members and Rs. 874-13-0 as interest on deposits. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,927-10-0 and the balance of Rs. 4,128-12-0 was carried forward to the credit of the capital fund account. The balance sheet shows that the financial position of the Union is very sound. Assets amounted to Rs. 25,977-8-1 out of which Rs. 13,000 have been placed as fixed deposit with the Central Bank of India, Limited. Post-office cash certificates of the face value of Rs. 6,000 have been valued at Rs. 4,500 and cash in account current and on hand amounts to Rs. 2,583-9-3. Liabilities show an amount of Rs. 25,952-8-0 at the credit of the capital fund account and Rs. 25 for outstanding expenses payable.

The great grievance of the Union continues to be the question of its non-recognition by the G. I. P. Railway Administration. On 26th July 1925 the Union addressed a letter to the Agent requesting recognition and agreeing to effect such alterations in the rules of the Union as may be found objectionable. To this communication the Agent replied on 29th September as follows :—

> " The Agent has carefully considered the question, but is not prepared to give any decision until the Trades Union Bill becomes law and thus enables Government to lay down a policy to be adopted."

In view of the fact that the Trade Unions Act is shortly to come into operation the Union hopes that the Railway Board will be pleased to permit the G. I. P. Railway Administration to accord their official recognition to this Union.

The remaining Unions in Bombay City.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of the rest of the Bombay Unions. The latest information in connexion with the membership, income and expenditure of all Unions not specifically dealt with in this review, is given in Tables II and III printed on pages 642 to 655 of this issue.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the six Unions of the cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been dealt with under the head " Federations of Trade Unions."

REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

In view of the winding-up of the two Unions of cotton mill operatives at Broach, the majority of the remaining Unions in the Bombay Presidency outside the cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad are Postal Unions, affiliated either to the Bombay Presidency Postal Association or to the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union. The activities of these Unions are more or less confined to constitutional agitation for the removal of specific grievances and for improvements in conditions of service. The remarks made under the headings of the two Federations of Postal Unions above therefore apply generally to the activities of the individual affiliated members as well.

Freedom of Association

Three notes bearing on the right of association and combination, and relating respectively to Italy, Spain and the United States, are given below.

In Italy, recognition has been given under the Trade Union Act of last year to three national federations of employers or workers in the transport industry, thus completing the framework of Italian industrial organisation as officially recognised. The Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Corporations, foreshadows the creation of an inspection service to ensure the application of the policy of that Department. Recognised industrial organisations are to nominate candidates for local advisory committees to be appointed to assist the *podestat*, or chief municipal officer, nominated by the Government.

The Spanish Government has adopted a scheme for the organisation of employers and workers in all industries and occupations in a series of joint corporate bodies, local and national. Associations formed exclusively of intellectual or manual workers for the purpose of defending their occupational interests are to be recognised as workers' organisations.

The United States Supreme Court, in a recent judgment, has laid it down that it is illegal for a trade union to attempt to enforce the payment of wages due to its members by means of a strike ; back wages should be recovered by action in the courts. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 31, 1927.*)

Indian Factories during 1925

An Increase of 8 per cent.

STEADY GROWTH OF FACTORY POPULATION

The Annual Statistics of factories for the year 1925 subject to the Indian Factories Act have just been published by the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour. The note which prefaces a series of interesting statistical tables points out that there was an increase in the number of factories in which the majority of operatives were exempted from the various provisions of the Act and states that the progress in respect of hours of work made in 1924 was not kept up during the year under report. A satisfactory feature of the year's working, however, was an improvement in factory inspection and the increasing strictness with which factory-owners were prevented from evading the provisions of the Act.

CONTINUED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FACTORIES

During the year, there was a further rise in the number of factories by 8 per cent., *i.e.*, from 6406 to 6926. The addition of 246 cotton ginning factories to the registers accounts for a large part of this increase. Rice mills and printing presses also show substantial increases in numbers. Local Governments made increased use of the powers conferred on them by Section 2 (3) (*b*) of the Act which lays down that any premises wherein, or within the precincts of which, on any one day in the year not less than ten persons are simultaneously employed and any such process is carried on, whether any such power is used in aid thereof or not may be declared by the Local Government by notification in the Local Official Gazette to be a factory. The number of factories thus notified during the year, was 100 as against 60 in 1924. The most notable increases in the number of such factories are found in the Central Provinces and Berar, Bombay and Madras. No factories have yet been notified by the Governments of Bengal and Burma, but the question of notifying some of the smaller Mills in Burma is under consideration. In Ajmer-Merwara, Baluchistan, Delhi and North-West Frontier Province, there existed no factories that could be notified under Section 2 (3) (*b*) of the Act. The Governments of the Punjab and Assam have for the first time exercised their powers in this connexion and the number of factories notified by them were respectively 12 and 1 in number. Decreases in the number of notified factories have been reported in the case of Bihar and Orissa and Bangalore and Coorg. The following table shows the numbers of ordinary and notified factories in each province in the year 1925 as compared with the figures for the year 1924.

It will be seen from the figures given below that in the North-West Frontier Province and Bangalore and Coorg, the number of factories remained stationary whilst there was a fall in the case of Baluchistan and Delhi. Increases were registered in all the other provinces. The greatest increase was in the Punjab where the number of factories increased by 21·4 per cent. Next come the provinces of Ajmer-Merwara, Bihar and Orissa

and Bombay where the percentage increases amounted to 16·67, 13·10 and 12·10 respectively.

Number of Factories—By Provinces

Province	Number of factories in 1925 belonging to the class of			Total number of factories in 1924	Increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent. in 1925 as compared with 1924
	Ordinary Factories	Notified factories	Total number of factories		
Madras	1,109	12	1,121	1,044	+ 7·4
Bombay	1,335	23	1,358	1,211	+ 12·1
Bengal	1,148	..	1,148	1,065	+ 7·8
United Provinces	275	1	276	257	+ 7·4
Punjab	515	12	527	434	+ 21·4
Burma	893	..	893	858	+ 4·1
Bihar and Orissa	236	6	242	214	+ 13·1
Central Provinces and Berar ..	604	40	644	618	+ 4·2
Assam	588	1	589	579	+ 1·7
North-West Frontier Province ..	15	..	15	15	..
Baluchistan . .	5	..	5	6	—16·7
Ajmer-Merwara	35	..	35	30	+ 16·7
Delhi	58	..	58	60	— 3·3
Bangalore and Coorg	10*	5*	15	15	. . .
Total ..	6,826	100	6,926	6,406	+ 8·1

*One factory is in Coorg; all the others are in Bangalore.

CLASSES OF FACTORIES

The numbers of factories grouped according to classes of concerns are set forth in the table below :—

Number of Factories—By Groups

Class of Factory	Total number of Factories in		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1925 as compared with 1924
	1924	1925	
Government and Local Fund Factories	241	287	+19·10
Textiles :—	390	397	+ 1·79
Cotton (Spinning and weaving and others) Factories	275	279	+ 1·45
Jute Mills	89	88	— 1·12
Engineering :—	511	509	— 0·39
Railway Workshops	73	65	—10·96
Minerals and Metals	121	119	— 1·65
Food, Drink and Tobacco	2,259	2,410	+ 6·68
Chemical, Dyes, etc.	358	394	+10·10
Paper and Printing	246	274	+11·38
Processes relating to wood stone and glass ..	332	339	+ 2·11
Processes connected with skins and hides	32	35	+ 9·38
Gins and Presses :—	1,865	2,112	+13·24
Cotton ginning and baling	1,749	1,995	+14·07
Miscellaneous	51	50	— 1·96
Total ..	6,406	6,926	+8·12

In reading the above table a caveat with regard to the 1924 figures is necessary. On comparing the figures in this table with those previously published, it will be found that while the total remains the same, there are variations in individual items. In view of the fact that during the year under review the Local Governments adopted a different system of grouping in reporting, the Government of India found it necessary to reclassify the published figures in order to make them comparable with those of 1925, and this explains the apparent discrepancy. Analysed by groups, the numbers of factories coming under "Engineering," "Minerals and Metals" and "Miscellaneous" showed decreases amounting to 0·39 per cent., 1·65 per cent. and 1·96 per cent. respectively. The fall in the number of railway workshops accounts for the greater part of the decrease in the "Engineering" group; and the closing down of four foundries and one rubber factory respectively govern the decreases in the other two groups. The largest increase is to be found in Government and Local Fund factories and amounted to 19·10 per cent. This increase was due to the transfer of certain railway workshops, with the lines to which they belonged, to State management. Gins and presses increased by 13·24 per cent. and the factories under the groups "Paper and Printing" and "Chemical, Dyes, etc.," advanced by 11·38 per cent. and 10·10 per cent. respectively. The addition to Textile factories was the least and amounted to only 1·79 per cent.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED

The detailed figures for the average number of persons employed in each province are given in the following table :—

Average Number of Persons Employed—By Provinces

Province	Average daily number employed in the year		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1925 as compared with 1924
	1924	1925	
Madras	121,114	123,563	+ 2
Bombay	354,853	370,460	+ 4·4
Bengal	543,123	551,342	+ 1·5
United Provinces	77,202	78,942	+ 2·3
Punjab	50,842	53,533	+ 5·3
Burma	91,210	97,346	+ 6·7
Bihar and Orissa	70,015	73,641	+ 5·2
Central Provinces and Berar	67,385	67,104	— 0·4
Assam	49,451	48,697	— 1·5
North-West Frontier Province	924	786	—14·9
Baluchistan	1,846	1,197	—35·2
Ajmer-Merwara	14,321	15,631	+ 9·2
Delhi	10,479	10,126	— 3·4
Bangalore and Coorg	2,827	2,590	— 8·4
Total ..	1,455,592	1,494,958	+ 2·7

The average daily number of persons employed in all factories in India, subject to the Indian Factories Act, increased from 1,455,592 in 1924 to

1,494,958 or by 2·7 per cent. The rate of growth of the factory population, though steady, is not proportionate to the rate of increase in the number of factories and this is due to the inclusion of smaller establishments. Ajmer-Merwara shows an increase of 9·2 per cent. Amongst the provinces in which the factory population decreased during the year, Baluchistan shows a fall of 35·2 per cent. and North-West Frontier province of 14·9 per cent.

The following table shows the statistics presented in the above table reclassified according to classes of Factories and a few of the more important sub-heads such as Cotton Mills, Jute Mills, etc.

Average Number of Persons Employed—By Classes of Factories

Class of Factory	Average daily number employed in the year		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1925 as compared with 1924
	1924	1925	
Government and Local Fund Factories	98,442	141,135	+43·4
Textiles	674,764	684,117	+ 1·4
Cotton (Spinning and weaving and others) Factories.	323,765	331,730	+ 2·5
Jute Mills	339,147	341,961	+ 0·8
Engineering	183,769	154,833	—15·7
Railway Workshops	103,202	71,447	—30·8
Minerals and Metals	59,477	59,689	+ 0·4
Food, Drink and Tobacco	160,942	163,423	+ 1·5
Chemical, Dyes, etc.	34,136	40,116	+ 1·8
Paper and Printing	27,228	26,963	— 1·0
Processes relating to wood, stone and glass ..	35,122	35,383	+ 0·7
Processes connected with skins and hides.. ..	6,445	6,079	— 5·6
Gins and Presses	168,027	175,611	+ 4·5
Cotton ginning and baling	133,091	142,684	+ 7·2
Miscellaneous	7,240	7,609	+ 5·1
Total ..	1,455,592	1,494,958	+ 2·7

It will be noticed from the above figures that the great fall in the number of workers in railway workshops is counter-balanced by a large increase under the head "Government and Local Fund Factories." This is, as has already been pointed out, due to certain railways with their workshops having been brought under State management. It is important to note that despite the closing of several factories falling under the groups "Minerals and Metals" and "Miscellaneous" there was an increase in the average number of persons employed. The converse is true in the case of the groups "Paper and Printing" and "Skins and Hides." The fluctuations in the rest of the groups follow the corresponding changes in the numbers of factories.

In the following table are given the figures of average daily attendance in the year 1925 in factories of all industries classified according to Provinces, and sex, and also a comparison with 1924 for totals only.

Average Number of Persons Employed—By Provinces and Sex Groups

Province	Average daily number employed in all factories					
	Adults			Children		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Madras	90,251	26,884	117,135	4,006	2,422	6,428
Bombay	284,376	77,624	362,000	6,592	1,868	8,460
Bengal	443,311	74,180	517,491	31,159	2,692	33,851
United Provinces	71,438	5,638	77,076	1,847	19	1,866
Punjab	44,566	7,791	52,357	1,072	104	1,176
Burma	86,594	9,399	95,993	948	405	1,353
Bihar and Orissa	65,998	6,660	72,658	895	88	983
Central Provinces and Berar	41,633	23,510	65,143	1,778	183	1,961
Assam	24,098	12,752	36,850	8,156	3,691	11,847
North-West Frontier Province	724	58	782	4	..	4
Baluchistan	1,113	..	1,113	84	..	84
Ajmer-Merwara	13,771	1,628	15,399	181	51	232
Delhi	9,097	590	9,687	439	..	439
Bangalore and Coorg ..	1,749	800	2,549	38	3	41
Total for 1925 ..	1,178,719	247,514	1,426,233	57,199	11,526	68,725
Total for 1924 ..	1,147,729	235,332	1,383,061	60,240	12,291	72,531
Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1925 as compared with 1924 ..	+2·7	+5·2	+3·1	—5·05	—6·2	—5·2

The figures indicate that the increased employment of women which was noticed in 1924 continued in 1925, and that there has been a decline in the number of children employed. Both are accounted for by the restrictions placed on the employment of Juvenile Labour. The total number of children employed in all factories fell from 72,531 to 68,725 while women workers increased in number from 235,332 to 247,514, the percentage change in each case being 5·20. It is interesting to note that in Baluchistan only male labour was employed, and in the factories in Delhi and the North West Frontier Province girls were not employed. The factories in Assam are the largest employers of female children and those in Bombay of adult female labour.

The percentage increase in the number of men employed in the cotton industry in India was less than half that of women workers, while juvenile labour of both sexes decreased in nearly the same proportion. The one cotton mill which came into existence in Assam during the year employed only male labour. The cotton mills in Burma and Bihar and Orissa, do not engage any children employees at all, while those in Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara excluded only female child labour. In Bombay the number of women cotton mill operatives rose from 48,452 to 51,226 or by 5·73 per cent. and the number of children employed decreased by 1,378 or by 18·32 per cent.

The following table shows the sex classification of workers in cotton spinning and weaving mills in the same way as in the preceding table :—

Average Number of Persons Employed in Cotton Mills—By Provinces and Sex Groups

Province	Average daily number employed					
	Adults			Children		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Madras	20,468	4,712	25,180	2,391	1,561	3,952
Bombay	183,186	51,226	234,412	4,873	1,272	6,145
Bengal	10,187	1,758	11,945	1,247	185	1,432
United Provinces	20,512	1,005	21,517	348	10	358
Punjab	1,301	135	1,436	130	3	133
Burma	412	180	592	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	463	..	463	..	..	..
Central Provinces and Berar	13,473	3,347	16,820	1.630	156	1,786
Assam	33	..	33	3	..	3
North-West Frontier Province	.	..	..	..	..	..
Baluchistan	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ajmer-Merwara	1,803	260	2,063	70	..	70
Delhi	3,463	159	3,622	261	..	261
Bangalore and Coorg ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total for 1925 ..	255,301	62,782	318,083	10,953	3,187	14,140
Total for 1924 ..	249,069	59,426	308,495	12,495	3,616	16,111
Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1925 as compared with 1924 ..	+2·5	+5·6	+3·1	—12·4	—11·9	—12 2

In the Bombay Presidency only 3 per cent. of the factories returned for the year 1925 did not employ any men, whereas 73 per cent. employed women in addition to men. Particulars with regard to 64 factories in Madras and 3 in the United Provinces were not available. Out of the remaining factories in these Provinces the percentages of those employing male operatives were 94 and 99 respectively. Except these provinces and Burma, male labour was employed in all factories in the remaining Provinces. In India, as a whole, the percentage of factories employing men declined by 1 point as compared with the previous year. The greatest number of factories employing women in addition to men is to be found in Assam where the percentage of such factories amounted to 92. The proportion of factories employing female labour in addition to male labour increased considerably in the provinces of Bengal and the Punjab, while Delhi reported a decrease of 4 points. The total number of factories which employed women in addition to men was 67 per cent. as against 66 per cent. in the year 1924—an increase of 1 point. With regard to child labour, the final figures show that the percentage of factories giving employment to children fell by 3 points. The greatest preponderance

of children employees is to be found in Assam where 68 per cent. of the total number of factories employed children.

The following table shows, by Provinces, the total number of factories and the number of factories employing men, employing women and employing children for each of the two years 1924 and 1925. The percentages of the figures of each class to the total number of factories in the year are indicated in bold figures :—

Province	Number of factories in							
	1924				1925			
	Total	Employing men	Employing women	Employing children	Total	Employing men	Employing women	Employing children
Madras*	1,044	974 **93**	828 **79**	226 **22**	1,121	1,057 **94**	870 **78**	197 **18**
Bombay	1,211	1,187 **98**	886 **73**	231 **19**	1,358	1,321 **97**	987 **73**	259 **18**
Bengal	1,065	1,065 **100**	570 **54**	426 **40**	1,148	1,148 **100**	732 **64**	411 **36**
United Provinces† ..	257	257 **100**	152 **59**	65 **25**	276	273 **99**	154 **56**	66 **24**
Punjab	434	434 **100**	248 **57**	56 **13**	527	527 **100**	333 **63**	71 **14**
Burma	858	858 **100**	379 **44**	82 **10**	893	886 **99**	406 **45**	73 **8**
Bihar and Orissa ..	214	213 **100**	93 **43**	41 **19**	242	242 **100**	111 **46**	39 **16**
Central Provinces and Berar	618	618 **100**	487 **79**	20 **3**	644	644 **100**	505 **78**	19 **3**
Assam	579	579 **100**	540 **93**	420 **73**	589	589 **100**	542 **92**	402 **68**
North-West Frontier Province ..	15	15 **100**	3 **20**	1 **7**	15	15 **100**	3 **20**	1 **7**
Baluchistan ..	6	6 **100**	..	1 **17**	5	5 **100**	..	1 **20**
Ajmer-Merwara ..	30	30 **100**	23 **77**	8 **27**	35	35 **100**	27 **77**	11 **31**
Delhi	60	60 **100**	12 **20**	13 **22**	58	58 **100**	9 **16**	17 **29**
Bangalore and Coorg..	15	15 **100**	2 **13**	7 **47**	15	15 **100**	3 **20**	8 **53**
Total ..	6,406	6,311 **99**	4,223 **66**	1,597 **25**	6,926	6,815 **98**	4,682 **67**	1,555 **22**

* Particulars of 64 factories not available.

† Particulars of 3 factories not available.

HOURS OF LABOUR

The following table shows, by provinces, (*a*) the number of factories which employed men and (*b*) the number of factories in which average or normal weekly hours for men were (1) not above 48, (2) above 48 and not above 54 and (3) above 54, in the year 1925 as compared with the year 1924.

Hours of Work—For Men

Province	Total number of factories employing men in		Number of factories in which normal weekly hours were					
			Not above 48 in		Above 48 and not above 54 in		Above 54 in	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
Madras*	974	1,057	308	250	173	188	493	619
Bombay	1,187	1,321	158	174	102	112	927	1,035
Bengal	1,065	1,148	520	539	227	212	318	397
United Provinces† ..	257	273	42	49	24	24	191	200
Punjab	434	527	55	51	28	27	351	449
Burma	858	886	159	161	90	94	609	631
Bihar and Orissa ..	213	242	87	87	33	47	93	108
Central Provinces and Berar	618	644	33	55	36	23	549	566
Assam	579	589	402	427	78	78	99	84
North-West Frontier Province ..	15	15	6	6	..	6	9	3
Baluchistan ..	6	5	..	..	..	..	6	5
Ajmer-Merwara ..	30	35	6	8	..	..	24	27
Delhi	60	58	16	16	20	18	24	24
Bangalore and Coorg..	15	15	7	8	8	7	..	..
Total ..	6,311	6,815	1,799	1,831	819	836	3,693	4,148

*Particulars of 64 factories not available. †Particulars of 3 factories not available.

Amongst factories employing men in 1925, 27 per cent. worked 48 hours per week. In 12 per cent. the weekly hours were between 48 and 54, and in 61 per cent. normal working was for more than 54 hours per week. The corresponding percentages for the year 1924 were 29, 13 and 59 respectively. In the Bombay Presidency the weekly hours for male factory labourers in 1925 were not above 48 in 13·2 per cent. of the factories employing men, above 48 and below 54 in 8·5 per cent. and above 54 in 78·3 per cent. As compared with 1924, a greater number of factories in India maintained working hours of over 54 per week.

The hours of labour for women factory labourers were not above 48 per week in 32 per cent. of the factories employing women, 48 and below 54 hours per week in 11 per cent. and above 54 hours per week in 57 per cent. In 1924 the corresponding percentages were 34, 12 and 54 respectively. The general tendency appears to have been towards a lengthening of the daily hours of work for women. In the Punjab, North-West Frontier Province and Ajmer-Merwara none of the factories employing

women worked for less than 54 hours a week, while in Bombay and Central Provinces and Berar the percentages of factories which observed a working week of over 54 hours were in the neighbourhood of 75 and 90 respectively. Factories employing women which worked 48 hours or less per week are to be found in large numbers in Assam and Bengal, the percentages of such factories to the total numbers employing women being 90·22 and 61·89 respectively.

The following table presents the statistics regarding hours of work for women factory labourers in the same way as in the preceding table :—

Hours of Work—For Women

Province	Total number of factories employing women in		Number of factories in which normal weekly hours were					
			Not above 48 in		Above 48 and not above 54 in		Above 54 in	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
Madras*	828	870	318	240	136	121	374	509
Bombay	886	987	85	91	125	146	676	750
Bengal	570	732	370	453	88	121	112	158
United Provinces† ..	152	154	9	11	10	7	133	136
Punjab	248	333	..	..	..	..	248	333
Burma	379	406	113	119	49	47	217	240
Bihar and Orissa ..	93	111	52	48	19	33	22	30
Central Provinces and Berar	487	505	21	30	26	22	440	453
Assam	540	542	455	489	55	39	30	14
North-West Frontier Province ..	3	3	..	..	..	..	3	3
Baluchistan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ajmer-Merwara ..	23	27	..	..	..	..	23	27
Delhi	12	9	5	4	2	..	5	5
Bangalore and Coorg ..	2	3	..	2	2	1	..	..
Total ..	4,223	4,682	1,428	1,487	512	537	2,283	2,658

*Particulars of 64 factories not available. †Particulars of 3 factories not available.

Out of 1,555 factories in India subject to the Indian Factories Act which employed children, 1,037 or 66.69 per cent. made their children employees work for more than 30 hours a week. In 1924 the percentage of such factories was 52. In Ajmer-Merwara all the 11 factories which employed children worked for more than 30 hours a week. In the Bombay Presidency and Central Provinces and Berar out of 239 and 19 factories employing children, 133 or 55·65 per cent. and 13 or 68·42 per cent. respectively observed a working week of not above 30 hours. In almost all the other provinces the normal working hours for children employed in factories were more than 30. The tendency, in general, appears to have been to enhance the hours of work for children.

The following table contains the statistics of factories in which the normal weekly hours for children were below and above 30 in the years 1924 and 1925 :—

Hours of Work—For Children

Province	Total number of factories employing children in		Number of factories in which normal weekly hours were			
			Not above 30 in		Above 30 in	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
Madras*	226	197	59	48	167	149
Bombay	231	239	112	133	119	106
Bengal	426	411	167	126	259	285
United Provinces† ..	65	66	24	25	41	41
Punjab	56	71	14	14	42	57
Burma	82	73	9	7	73	66
Bihar and Orissa ..	41	39	3	2	38	37
Central Provinces and Berar	20	19	15	13	5	6
Assam	420	402	133	142	287	260
North-West Frontier Province	1	1	1	1	..	..
Baluchistan . ..	1	1	..	..	1	1
Ajmer-Merwara ..	8	11	..	..	8	11
Delhi	13	17	6	6	7	11
Bangalore and Coorg ..	7	8	1	1	6	7
Total ..	1,597	1,555	544	518	1,053	1,037

*Particulars of 64 factories not available. †Particulars of 3 factories not available.

REST INTERVALS

Section 21 of the Indian Factories Act governs the question of rest periods for factory workers. A detailed summary of the provisions made under this Section as well as of the exemptions, were given on page 982 of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926. No amendment was made either in this or any other Section of the Act during the year under review. The number of factories in which periods of rest were granted under Section 21 (1) (*a*) (*i*) of the Act (rest periods of not less than one hour at intervals not exceeding 6 hours); and under Section 21 (1) (*a*) (*ii*) of the Act (periods of rest of half an hour each arranged in such a manner that no person shall be required to work continuously for more than 5 hours) and the number of factories in which intervals were subject to

exemption from Section 21, are shown for both the years 1924 and 1925, in the following table :—

Intervals and Exemptions from Prescribed Intervals

Province	Number of factories in which intervals were Granted under Section 21 (1) (a) (i) in		Granted under Section 21 (1) (a) (ii) in		Subject to exemption from Section 21 in	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
Madras*	971	1,033	2	..	126	65
Bombay	1,102	1,217	18	20	68	85
Bengal	477	680	149	189	439	279
United Provinces† ..	207	218	4	2	46	51
Punjab	434	527	..	..	40	37
Burma	840	893	..	..	18	38
Bihar and Orissa ..	80	79	..	..	134	163
Central Provinces and Berar.	618	644	..	..	18	18
Assam	20	31	5	4	554	554
North-West Frontier Province ..	15	15	..	..	..	..
Baluchistan .	6	5	.	..	..	..
Ajmer-Merwara ..	30	35	..	..	..	..
Delhi	45	47	..	..	15	11
Bangalore and Coorg ..	15	15	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4,860	5,439	178	215	1,458	1,301

* Particulars of 64 factories not available. † Particulars of 3 factories not available.

The percentage of factories granting intervals of rest under Section 21 (1) (*a*) (*i*) of the Act amounted to 78·53 whereas in 3·10 per cent. of the factories intervals were granted under Section 21 (1) (*a*) (*ii*). The number of factories exempted from the provisions of the Act increased in Bombay, Burma and Bihar and Orissa, while there was no change in Assam and in the Central Provinces and Berar. A great fall in the number of such factories is to be found in Bengal and in addition, there were slight decreases reported by some other provinces. Compared with the year 1924, the number of factories in India which were exempted from Section 21 of the Indian Factories Act decreased by 11 per cent.

HOLIDAYS

Under Section 22 of the India Factories Act no person shall be employed in any factory on a Sunday unless that person has had, or will have, a holiday for a whole day on one of the three days immediately preceding or succeeding the Sunday. Exemptions may be granted by the Local Government to those factories where a Local Government is satisfied of the necessity for an exemption. In the following table the numbers of factories, by Provinces, which granted holidays and those which enjoyed exemptions are given and a comparison between the figures for 1924 and 1925 is also made :—

Holidays and Exemptions from Prescribed Weekly Holiday

Number of factories in which

Province	Holidays were granted on: Sundays in		Holidays were granted on: Week-days or Sundays in		Majority of operatives were exempted from Section 22 in	
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
Madras.*	402	446	558	534	171	92
Bombay	217	244	951	1,054	20	24
Bengal	433	370	248	171	384	607
United Provinces† ..	49	58	51	48	157	167
Punjab	62	61	372	466	40	37
Burma	..	258	832	635	26	43
Bihar and Orissa ..	54	70	79	89	81	83
Central Provinces and Berar	271	284	347	360	22	22
Assam	33	24	..	7	546	558
North-West Frontier Province	12	12	3	3	..	..
Baluchistan ..	1	1	4	4	1	..
Ajmer-Merwara ..	3	3	27	32	..	..
Delhi	17	10	28	37	25	11
Bangalore and Coorg ..	11	11	4	4	1	1
Total ..	1,565	1,852	3,504	3,444	1,474	1,645

* Particulars of 64 factories not available. † Particulars of 3 factories not available.

The above figures show that in 1925 26·74 per cent. of the factories granted holidays on Sundays only while 49·73 per cent. gave holidays to their employees either on week days or on Sundays. There was an increase in the number of factories in India subject to the Indian Factories Act which were exempted from the operation of the provisions of Section 22 of the Act. The total number of such factories in 1924 was 1,474 while in 1925 it rose to 1,645 or by 11·60 per cent. The greatest number of exemptions from this Section was granted in the case of the factories in Bengal. As compared with the year 1924, only 4 more factories in Bombay were exempted during the year. None of the factories in North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan, and Ajmer-Merwara was exempted from Section 22 of the Act.

EXEMPTIONS FROM LIMITATION OF WORKING HOURS

Sections 27 and 28 of the Indian Factories Act deal with the question of the limitations laid down in the Act with regard to working hours per week and per day respectively. It is laid down that no person shall be employed in a factory for more than 60 hours in any one week or for more than 11 hours in any one day. But the Local Governments are invested with power to grant exemptions from the provisions of Sections 27 and 28 to those factories in which the nature of the work carried on necessitates working outside the limits laid down for the general working of the factory. The

following table shows, by Provinces, the numbers of factories exempted from Sections 27 and 28 of the Act during the years 1924 and 1925.

Exemptions from Limitation of Working Hours per week and per day

Province	Number of factories exempted from Section 27 during		Number of factories exempted from Section 28 during	
	1924	1925	1924	1925
Madras*	19	49	19	49
Bombay	..	..	..	..
Bengal	326	333	..	4
United Provinces†	105	109	..	..
Punjab	54	330	..	..
Burma	12	..	12	38
Bihar and Orissa	13	62	13	18
Central Provinces and Berar	..	..	..	..
Assam	542	546	..	2
North-West Frontier Province	..	..	..	..
Baluchistan	..	..	..	..
Ajmer-Merwara	24	23	..	..
Delhi	..	18	..	6
Bangalore and Coorg	1	1	1	1
Total ..	1,096	1,471	45	118

* Particulars for 64 factories not available. † Particulars for 3 factories not available.

From the above figures it will be noticed that the numbers of factories exempted from each of the sections mentioned above rose considerably during the year under report. The number of factories which were exempted from observing the limitation of normal weekly hours increased from 1,096 in 1924 to 1471 in 1925 or by 34·22 per cent. and the number of those exempted from normal daily hours increased from 45 to 118 or by 162·22 per cent. It is remarkable that in Bombay, North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan and Central Provinces and Berar no factory was exempted from the provisions of the Sections under reference. The Local Government of Assam granted the greatest number of exemptions from Section 27, while the largest number of factories exempted from Section 28 occurs in Madras. It is note-worthy that the 12 factories in Burma which were exempted from Section 27 during the year 1924 were again forced to observe the provisions of the Section during the year under review.

ACCIDENTS

The following table presents the statistics of Accidents in Indian Factories, by Provinces, in 1924 and 1925 classified according to "fatal," "serious," and "minor":—

Accidents

Province	Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in 1925
	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925	
Madras	11	15	196	210	779	867	986	1,092	+ 10·8
Bombay	82	50	170	599	2,354	2,466	2,606	3,115	+ 19·5
Bengal	49	79	731	909	1,442	1,692	2,222	2,680	+ 20·6
United Provinces ..	12	20	87	131	807	1,250	906	1,401	+ 54·6
Punjab	17	20	15	22	488	416	520	458	— 11·9
Burma	32	30	229	202	711	1,097	972	1,329	+ 36·7
Bihar and Orissa ..	43	25	160	302	1,010	1,402	1,213	1,729	+ 42·5
Central Provinces and Berar	11	10	62	50	191	193	264	253	— 4·2
Assam	5	10	30	30	17	30	52	70	+ 34·6
North-West Frontier Province ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Baluchistan ..	..	..	..	..	13	15	13	15	+ 15·4
Ajmer-Merwara ..	..	..	5	14	226	424	231	438	+ 89·6
Delhi	22	4	3	9	15	27	40	40	..
Bangalore and Coorg ..	..	..	2	3	2	20	4	23	+475·0
Total ..	284	263	1,690	2,481	8,055	9,901	10,029	12,645	+26·1

The total number of accidents in India increased from 10,029 in 1924 to 12,645 in 1925 or by 26·1 per cent. In the Bombay Presidency the increase amounted to 19·5 per cent. and in Bengal to 20·6 per cent. Only two provinces reported decreases and these were the Punjab and Central Provinces and Berar. With regard to the increase in the total number of accidents, the note which prefaces the statistical tables published by the Government of India observes that this is largely due to better reporting and the inclusion of a number of minor accidents. The Workmen's Compensation Act which came into operation in 1924 appears to have had an important effect in bringing to light minor accidents which had previously been considered too trivial to be reported. The number of fatal accidents, though less than in the previous year, was still distressingly high. The greatest number of such accidents, *viz.*, 79, occurred in the factories in Bengal, while in the Bombay Presidency fatal accidents amounted to 50. The Government of India recognise that the prevention of accident is, to a considerable extent, beyond the powers of employers but greater attention to safety methods would have an important effect in reducing the number of accidents. In particular, the placing of unskilled persons in charge of dangerous machinery showed either extraordinary ignorance or a callous disregard of the dangers to which operatives are subjected. Stress is also laid on faulty construction of factories as being responsible for accidents. The Government of India have gone carefully into the question of the control of factory construction and have consulted

the Provincial Governments as to the advisability of enacting Provincial legislation for the purpose.

CONVICTIONS

The following table shows the numbers of convictions obtained during the year 1925 under the various sections of the Factory Act. It also gives the numbers of persons convicted in each province.

Number of Convictions in 1925

Under	Number of Convictions obtained during the year 1925									
	In the Province of									
	Madras	Bombay	Bengal	United Provinces	Punjab	Burma	Bihar and Orissa	Central Provinces and Berar	Ajmer-Merwara	In all Provinces
Section 41 (*a*) ..	186	303	95	1	28	..	2	24	1	640
,, 41 (*b*))										
,, 41 (*c*)) ..	16	..	13	..	..	2	..	2	..	33
,, 41 (*d*))										
,, 41 (*e*))										
,, 41 (*f*)) ..	33	8	5	..	25	4	..	12	3	90
,, 41 (*g*) ..	18	..	21	..	..	..	1	3	.	43
,, 41 (*h*))										
,, 41 (*i*) ..	80	7	19	6	3	9	..	6	.	130
,, 41 (*j*))										
,, 43 (*a*) ..	8	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
,, 43 (*c*) ..	50	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	53
All "penalty" Sections of the Act ..	391	320	154	7	56	15	3	48	4	998
Total number of persons convicted ..	78	57	54	7	25	12	3	32	3	271

The total number of convictions during the year under report amounted to 998 as against 625 in the previous year an increase of over 50 per cent. The number of persons convicted under the various penalty sections of the Indian Factories Act was 271 as compared with 222 in 1924. The increase in the figures may be taken as a satisfactory indication of the strictness in the enforcement of the provisions of the Act. The largest number of convictions was obtained under Section 41 (*a*) of the Act and amounted to 640 or 64·13 per cent. Less than 10 per cent. were made under Sections 41 (*e*) and 41 (*f*). It will be noticed that there were no convictions under any of the Sections of the Act in Assam, the North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan, Delhi, Bangalore and Coorg. A comparison of the numbers of convictions and the numbers of persons convicted shows that in several cases one individual was charged under more than one Section of the Act and convicted. So far as the Bombay

Presidency is concerned convictions were mainly made for infringing the provisions of the Act regarding days and hours of employment.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

There was a substantial increase in the number of factories inspected during the year, the total number of factories inspected in all the Provinces amounting to 5,933 or 86 per cent. of the total number of factories in India under the Factories Act. Compared with the year 1924 the increase amounted to 10·92 per cent. The majority of the uninspected factories are to be found in Assam and in Bengal, In the Bombay Presidency, out of a total of 1,358 factories which were in existence during the year only 27 or about 2 per cent. were left uninspected. The number of factories covered by the Bombay Inspection Staff was 1,331 which is the highest figure for the whole of India. None of the factories in the Provinces of Ajmer-Merwara and Delhi was left uninspected. The large increase in the number of uninspected factories in Assam is mostly due to several of the factories working only for a short season. It is reported that additions to the inspecting staff were made in several provinces including Bombay and Bengal and that with the increased employment of women in industry, the necessity for women inspectors was beginning to be felt in some provinces although only one such appointment has so far been made in Bombay.

International Federation of Intellectual Workers

The International Federation of Intellectual Workers, which claims to have 1,200,000 members, informs the International Labour Office that the Permanent Council of the Federation has decided to direct its immediate efforts to the following ends :

(1) The securing of the place which is due to intellectual workers in the International Labour Organisation, of which the International Labour Office is the preparatory and executive organ ;

(2) The establishment of a permanent link between all occupational associations, and especially the international organisations for separate occupations, in order that their claims may receive the effective support of all the workers in all the intellectual occupations ;

(3) The organisation of measures with a view to the establishment and extension of copyright in artistic, literary and scientific productions ;

(4) The establishment of standard agreements for intellectual workers ; and

(5) The creation of a fund to defray the expenses of travel and residence abroad of intellectual workers in the exercise of their profession, and also of students and professors. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 14, 1927.*)

Reviews of Books and Reports

An Inquiry into Mortgages of Agricultural Land in the Pothwar Assessment Circle of the Rawalpindi District in the Punjab, by Raja Hasan Akhtar, edited by H. Calvert, 1926, pp. 25, Price As. 6.

This is Rural Section Publication No. 14 of the Punjab Board of Economic Inquiry. It contains the results of an enquiry into mortgages of agricultural land in the Pothwar Circle of Kahuta Tehsil of Rawalpindi District.

A questionnaire was drawn up for the purpose of the enquiry and the information collected on each question has been given in a separate section of the report.

As pointed out by Mr. Calvert in his introduction the Circle is regarded as the most fertile in the tehsil. It is, therefore, not possible to say whether the results arrived at are typical of the whole tehsil, though it is not understood why the " most fertile " and not the " most typical " circle was not selected for investigation.

The results of the enquiry show that 4 per cent. of the land owned by agriculturists and 5½ per cent. of the land owned by non-agriculturists is mortgaged. The causes which lead to indebtedness and the necessity to mortgage land are bad seasons, expenditure on ceremonies and litigation. Cases of mortgages for big sums are rare. But petty transactions are common. The enquiry shows twenty cases of mortgages from seven to twenty-one rupees involving areas of less than three-eighths of an acre.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 10, FEBRUARY 1927 (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Life and Labour in Australia, by Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson, M.P.* pp. 435-438.

(2) *Trade Unionism Under Attack, by Walter M. Citrine, (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress).* pp. 439-443.

(3) *Advanced Education for All, by the Rt. Hon. Charles Trevelyan, M.P.* pp. 444 and 445.

(4) *Memories and Reflections, by " Propagandist."* pp. 447-449.

(5) *Psychology of the Rural Voter, by R. B. Walker (General Secretary of the National Union of Agricultural Workers).* pp. 450 and 451.

(6) *The Postal Workers' Wages Case, by George Middleton (Editor, " The Post").* pp. 460-462.

(7) *Britain's Far Eastern Assignment, by C. L. Malone.* pp. 463-465.

(8) *In the " Eight-fifteen," by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 466-468.

(9) *" Fordism " v. Individuality, by F. J. Maynard (Secretary of the Transport Workers' Federation).* pp. 474 and 475.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 98, FEBRUARY 1927. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Industrial Relations in the United States, by Robert R. Hyde.* pp. 39-44.

(2) *Apprenticeship and Welfare, by William Lang, M.A. (Supervisor of Apprentices, Albion Motor Car Company, Ltd.)* pp. 45-48.

(3) *The Function and Organisation of the Works School.* pp. 49-51.

(4) *Play Production as Recreation and Education.* pp. 52-54.

(5) *Welfare in a Small Factory.* pp. 54-56.

(6) *Explaining the Pension Fund*—Object of fund; establishment and maintenance; membership of the fund; pensionable service; subscribers' contributions; pension age; benefit on leaving or dying in the service; death of pensioner; calculation of pension; back service gift; joining the fund; control of the fund; commencement of the scheme; income tax. pp. 56-58.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 2. FEBRUARY 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Chronic Poisoning by Tin and Its Salts, by Frank G. Pedley, M.D. (Department of Industrial Hygiene, Institute of Public Health, Columbia University, New York City).* Case report—symptoms, physical findings, laboratory findings; discussion; literature—tin tetrachloride; conclusion. pp. 43-47.

(2) *Manganese: The Failure of Its Oral Administration to Affect the Health of Birds, by W. F. von Oettingen and Torald Sollmann. (Department of Pharmacology of the School of Medicine, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.)* pp. 48-50.

(3) *The Ventilation and Heating of Factories, by H. M. Vernon, M.D., and T. Bedford, B.Sc. (Investigators for the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, London.)* Introduction: natural systems of ventilation with occasional artificial extraction; mechanical systems of ventilation and heating; temperature gradients; cooling power of the air; variability of the air currents; influence of ventilation and heating on health; conclusions. pp. 51-60.

(4) *Summary of the National Safety Council Study of Benzol Poisoning, by C. E. A. Winslow, Dr. P. H. (Professor of Public Health, Yale School of Medicine; Chairman, Committee on Benzol of the National Safety Council).* Introduction—chemistry of benzol, industrial uses of benzol, benzol poisoning, toxic action of benzol; extent of benzol poisoning in American industry; field study—extent of early benzol poisoning, recommendations in regard to the use of benzol; laboratory study—relative toxicity of benzol and its higher homologues; conclusion. pp. 61-74.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVII, NO. 1, JANUARY 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Annual Report of the Department of Labour in Canada*—Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907; conciliation work; fair wages; statistics; Labour Gazette; Combines Investigation Act, 1923; Employment Offices Co-ordination Act; Technical Education Act; Canadian Government Annuities Act, 1908; League of Nations International Labour Organization. pp. 33-37.

(2) *Five Day Week in American Industry*—Opinions on Mr. Ford's policy. pp. 41 and 42.

(3) *Legislative Demands of Organized Labour.*—Proposals submitted to the Dominion Government by the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada; request of organized labour for provincial legislation. pp. 43-53.

(4) *Educational Work of Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.*—pp. 61 and 62.

(5) *Employees' Bonus and Benefit Schemes.*—Canadian general electric company; Keasby and Mattison company; Kroehler manufacturing company; Intercolonial coal company; Firth Brothers profit sharing plan; consolidated mining and smelting company of Canada; J. Kayser company; bonus for Royal Bank of Canada employees; group life insurance for general motors employees; American telephone and telegraph employees' stock; stock dividends for United States steel corporation employees; Philadelphia rapid transit; S. W. Straus and company, New York; garden cities for railway employees in France. pp. 62-64.

(6) *How to prevent Accidents in Construction Work in Canada.*—Construction; workmen's compensation; how compensation is collected; class 24; building trade problems; accident prevention; education of the worker; suggested remedies. pp. 66-69.

(7) *League of Nations International Labour Organization.*—France and the Washington hours convention; Great Britain and the eight-hour day; the constitutionality of labour legislation in the United States of America; recognition of unions in Argentina; conciliation and arbitration of industrial disputes. pp. 72 and 73.

(8) *International Economic Conference.*—Report of preparatory committee presented to the Council of the League of Nations. pp. 74 and 75.

(9) *Annual Review of Employment in Canada during 1926.*—Employment by economic areas; employment by cities; manufacturing industries; logging; mining; communication; transportation; construction and maintenance; services; trade. pp. 82-93.

(10) *The Eight-Hour Day in Canada.*—Hours of labour in manufacturing establishments, census of industry, 1924. pp. 102-106.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

The General Council of the Trade Union Congress has been invited to recommend candidates for scholarships enabling qualified working class students to attend a two years' course of study at Oxford University. These scholarships are arranged by the committee of the University of Oxford Delegacy for extra-mural studies, and the General Council, in accepting this invitation to recommend suitable candidates, has issued a circular to affiliated unions, giving particulars of the scheme and requesting unions to send in their names and the names of their nominees for scholarships before March 16.

The *Industrial Review*, the organ of the Trade Union Congress in making this announcement, explains that the Oxford Committee does not fix in advance the amount of the scholarship offered, owing to the fact that the circumstances of individual students differ. When making an award its object is to fix scholarships at such a sum as will meet the actual needs of the particular student so that he or she can meet all the expenses incurred in taking the two years' course at the university without financial anxiety. (*From "Times Educational Supplement," London, February 19, 1927*).

* * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

With a view to improving continuation occupational education, the Tokyo municipal authorities have undertaken an enquiry into the existing situation as regards pupils in the continuation courses. It was found that the pupils, and also those who had completed the courses, were held in good repute by the employers and were much sought after by them.

At the present time there are 15 occupational schools directly controlled by the State and 46 others controlled by the departmental City authorities. The total number of pupils attending the schools is 10,414. Of this total, 3,796 only are not engaged in any employment and 6,618 are earning their living in one undertaking or another. Some of the pupils receive fairly high salaries (as much as 100 *yen* per month), sometimes higher than the initial monthly salary received by graduates of the Imperial University of Tokyo.

The largest proportion of those attending the occupational schools is furnished by clerks and small employees (2,092). For other occupations the number of pupils is distributed as follows :—

Factory workers or apprentices ..	1,418
Municipal employees	78
Domestic workers	92

The city authorities have been so encouraged by the results obtained by the pupils and those who have completed their studies, that they are proposing to increase the number of occupational schools and to pay greater attention to the work of vocational guidance. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 31, 1927.*)

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay ..	1. The Central Labour Board.	1. G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. 2. B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union. 3. Port Trust Workshop Union. 4. The Presidency Postmen's Union. 5. The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union. (*a*)	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad. *Vice-President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla.
	2. The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.	1. Bombay Postal Union. 2. Ahmedabad Postal and R.M.S. Union. 3. Poona Postal Union. 4. Poona R. M. S. B-Division Union. 5. Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 6. Belgaum Postal Union. 7. Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 8. Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union. 9. Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union. 10. Ratnagiri Postal Union. 11. Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union. 12. Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union. 13. Baroda Postal Union. 14. Baroda R. M. S. Union. 15. Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 16. Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	*President*—Professor V. G. Kale (Poona). *General Treasurer*—G. K. Rahalkar (P. O. clerk). *Honorary Secretary*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B. (advocate). *General Secretary*—D. S. Joshi (P. O. clerk). *Joint Secretary*—V. H. Karandikar (Town Inspector). *Assistant Secretary*—V. G. Kulkarni, B.A. (P. O. clerk.)
	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.	1. The Bombay Postmen's Union. 2. Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 3. Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union. 4. Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	*President*—Jamnadas Madhawji Mehta, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*—V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. H. D. Thakur, B.A., LL.B. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji, B. A., LL.B., Solicitor.

(*a*) The name of the Union has been changed since January 1926.

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay—contd. ..	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.—*contd.*	5. Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 6. Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 7. Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 8. Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union. 9. Satara Division Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1926.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. G. Warty, M.A. *Assistant Secretaries*—Dhondu Keshav Tendulkar. Narayan Keshav Indap.
	4. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	1. The Wadi Bundar Staff Union. 2. The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union. 3. The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union.	*(Not yet appointed.)*
Ahmedabad ..	5. Ahmedabad Labour Union.	1. The Weavers' Union. 2. The Winders' Union. 3 The Throstle Union. 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. 5. The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union. 6. The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	*President*—Miss Anusuya Sarabhai. *Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union—January 1926.	9,766	*President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*— 1. R. S. Asavale. 2. F. J. Ginwalla. 3. S. K. Bole. 4. S. H. Jhabwalla. *Treasurers*— 1. Kanji Dwarkadas. 2. Syed Munawar.	*General Secretary*—R. R. Bakhale, Servants of India Society, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.—1897.	2,246	*President*—C. W.A. Gidney, Bhusawal. *Vice-President*—R. Freeman, Igatpuri. *Treasurer*—C. R. Ray, Kalyan.	*General Secretary*—E. Woodfall, 275-277 Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union—April 1921.	15,145	*President*—J. J. Athaide, B.A., LL.B. *Departm ntal Vice-Presidents*— (1) *Saloon Department*—Antonio Ferrao. (2) *Engine Department*—Yeat Mahomed. (3) *Deck Department*—Yakub Hassan. *Treasurer*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A.	*General Secretary*—Syed Munawar, B.A. *Departmental Secretaries*— 1. *Saloon crew*—S. A. Rebello. 2. *Engine crew*—Abdul Karim. 3. *Deck crew*—Mahomed Ibrahim.
	4	The B. B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union—July 1920.	1,765	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. *Vice-Presidents*— (1) F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. (2) B. G. Horniman. *Legal Adviser and Treasurer*— B. D. Mistry, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, High Court.	*Secretaries*—(1) S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road, Bombay. (2) F. J. Patel Bar.-at-Law, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Joint Secretary*—C. Bhukandas, Chargeman, B. B. & C. I. Railway Workshop, Parel. *Assistants*— 1. M. Bhagwandas. 2. J. Jhaivalla, DeLisle Road, Bombay.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union—May 1919.	2,300	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice-President*—B. G. Horniman.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road, Bombay. *Assistant Secretary*—V. P. Rele, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	6	The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union—March 1920.	836	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice President*—W. H. Patil. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji. *Joint Treasurer*—Vishnu Maldse.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road. *Assistant Secretary*—Sadanand Waman Gadker, 2nd Carpenter Street, Mazagon.
	7	The Clerks' Union—April 1918.	917	*President*—A. R. V. Ranjit, Peerbhoy Mansion, Sandhurst Road. *Vice President*—Samuel Judah, c/o Messrs. Graham and Co., Parsee Bazaar Gate Street, Fort, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Mr. Subharao, c/o Messrs. Mather Platt and Co.	*Joint Secretaries*—1. Anant Padmanabh, C/o Messrs. Ramsay and Arnold, 11, Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, or Ravte Building, Banam Hall Lane, Girgaum. 2. S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpokli Mandal)—December 1923.	182	*President*—D. A. Bhatawadekar, Hejib's Chawl, Junction of DeLisle and Arthur Roads, Chinchpokli, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Shankar Dhaku Kusgaonkar.	*Secretary*—V. G. Sadvelkar.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City —contd.	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union*—January 1926 (This Union has taken over the Bombay members of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union founded in April 1918).	1,299	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Solicitor, M.L.C., Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice Presidents*— (1) V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. (2) M. C. Chhagla, Bar.-at-Law.	*Hon. Secretaries*— (1) K. R. Upadhye, Vakil. (2) K. S. Parulekar. *Assistant Secretary*— N. K. Indap.
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal)—August 1925.	1,012	*President*—Arjun Atmaram Alve. *Treasurer* — Bhiwa Tanu Alve.	*Secretary*—Dataram Ramchandra Mayekar, Nagoo Sayaji's Wadi, 30, Prabhadevi Road, Bombay.
	11	The Bombay Currency Association—17th March 1923.	216	*President*—R. M. Dongre.	*Secretaries*— 1. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. 2. B. B. Acharya, 3. R. M. Cooper, Currency Office, Esplanade Road.
	12	Bombay Postal Union—1907 (Formerly known as the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club).	1,298		*Secretary*—D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay.
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal)—December 1925.	649	*President*—Shankar Kasiram Murkar. *Treasurer*—K. B. Aglave.	*Secretary*—S. J. Khamkar, near Ghorupdeo Temple, Bombay.
	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union†—July 1922.	276	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice President*—R. L. Surve, Umarkhadi Telegraph Office. *Treasurer*—Tukaram Sonu, Umarkhadi Telegraph Office.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43, Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.

* The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union, by which name this Union was formerly known is now an Association of 8 District Postmen's Unions.

† The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union since the 1st January 1926.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City —concld.	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union*—February 1926.	599	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Hon. Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43, Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.
	16	The Seamen's Union—March 1926.	8,000	*President*—L. Pereira (temporary).	*Secretary*—Marcelin Crus, 72, Trinity Street, Dhobi Talao (temporary).
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employee's Union—April 1926.	41	*President*—N. M. Joshi. *Vice-Presidents*—F. J. Ginwalla and Kanji Dwarkadas. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji.	*Hon. Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut.
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union—1920.	458	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-Presidents*— 1. B. G. Horniman. 2. O. E. Godfrey.	*Hon. General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Hon. Secretary*—B. K. Parab, B. P. T. Railway quarters, Jakaria Bunder. *Assistant Secretary* B. G. Deshpande.
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union—1926.	1,080	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-Presidents*— (1) N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. (2) C. C. DeSa. *Honorary Treasurer*—N. S. Parkar.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Honorary Secretary*—P. P. Carvalho, Assistant Shed Superintendent, Port Trust Docks.
	20	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union—1926.	420	*President*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate.	*Secretary*—P. S. Bakhale.
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union—1926.	135	Do. ..	Do.
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union—1926.	500†	Do. ..	Do.
		Total Members, Bombay City ..	49,140		

* The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Government Peons' and Menials' Union to Government Peons' and Menials' Union. † Expected.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	1,000	*President*—Anusuya Sarabhai Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Mirzapur Road, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Solicitor Girdhurlal's House, Mandvini Pole, Ahmedabad.
	24	The Winders' Union—June 1920.	160	Do. ..	Do.
	25	The Throstle Union—February 1920.	6,530	Do. ..	Do.
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	3,130	Do. ..	Do.
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	200	Do. ..	Do.
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union—(March 1926).	180	Do. ..	Do.
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920.	6,142	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Kharakuva Pole, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—B.N. Sandil, Bhow's Pole, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R.M.S. Union—1923.	209	*President*—N. M. Desai, B.A., LL.B., Raipur.	*Secretary*—D. S. Patel, Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Richey Road, Ahmedabad.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad —contd.	31	Gujarat Postmen's Union —August 1926.	94	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Kharakuva Pole, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary and Treasurer*—Ganesh Arjun Patel Ragunath Bum's Pole, Sankdi Sheri, Ahmedabad.
		Total Members Ahmedabad ..	17,645		
Sukkur ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920.	2,000	*President*—Radha Kishan A. Mathrani.	*Divisional Secretary*—J. Bukhari. *Assistant Secretary*—Sinister.
Karachi ..	33	N. W. Railway (Recognised) Union (Karachi District)—1920.	3,000	*Divisional President*—Radhakishan A. Mathrani, Sub-Inspector of Works, N. W. Railway, Reti.	*Honorary Divisional Secretary*—A. S. Thawardas. Head Delivery clerk, Goods Office, Karachi City. *Divisional Secretary*—J. Bukhari.
Poona ..	34	The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	110	*President*—John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	*Secretaries*— 1. G. T. Sakpal, Yeravda Prison Press, Poona. 2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City. 3. Krishnaji Shridhar Bande, Aryabhushan Press, Poona City, 4. D. S. Raihagkar Govardhan Press, Poona City.
	35	Poona Postal Union—1919.	325	*President*—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, "Kesari."	*Secretary*—N. V. Bhonde, Poona.
	36	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union—1926.	249	Do. ..	*Honorary General Secretary*—R. M. Karlekar. *Joint General Secretary*—G. K. Joshi.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Poona—contd. ..	37	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union —1920.	337	*President*—G. K. Gadgil, Bar.-at-Law, Poona. *Vice-President*—D. V. Ambekar. *Honorary Treasurer*—B. G. Mohite.	*Honorary Secretaries* (1) D. S. Deshpande. (2) H. V. Jadhav. *Assistant Secretary*—V. R. Sinde.
Broach ..	38	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	21	*President*—H. D. Thakore, Vakil. *Vice-President*—R. C. Seth, Vakil.	*Secretary*—K. J. Mishra.
Ahmednagar ..	39	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	399	 *	*Secretary*—Chabukswar, Ahmednagar.
Belgaum ..	40	Belgaum Postal Union—1920.	92	 *	*Secretary*—G. V. Limaye, Belgaum.
	41	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	90	*President*—B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C.	*Secretary*—R. S. Kadum.
Dharwar ..	42	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	161	*President*—V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	*Secretary*—R. M. Betgiri, Dharwar.
Jalgaon ..	43	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	111	*President*—H. V. Kolhatkar.	*Secretary*—H. V. Modak.
Nasik ..	44	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union —1920.	237	*President*—Rao Saheb Gogate.	*Secretary*—R. T. Lele, Nasik.
	45	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials Union.	72	*President*—A. B. Kachavale.	*Secretary*—B. K. Panse.
Ratnagiri ..	46	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	258	 *	*Secretary*—A. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
Satara ..	47	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union —1919.	260	*President*—R. V. Deshpande.	*Secretary*—T. K. Datye, Satara.

* Information not received.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Surat ..	48	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union —1921.	186		*Secretary*—B. N. Mistry, Surat.
	49	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	93	*President*—V. C. Jadhav, B.A. *Vice-President* —K. M. Desai.	*Honorary Secretaries*—(1) S. V. Hora, Vakil. (2) A. M. More. *Assistant Secretary* —N. R. More.
Baroda ..	50	Baroda Postal Union—1920.	152	*President*—C. M. Doctor.	*Secretary*—R. J. Shah, Baroda.
	51	Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924	196	*President*—Kalekar.	
	52	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	50	*President*—D. N. Chitre, Vakil.	*Secretary*—B. B. Palekar, Editor, "Jagriti." *Assistant Secretary* —S. K. Fadnis.
Bhavnagar ..	53	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	75		*Secretary*—T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
Rajkot ..	54	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	161		*Secretary*—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Karwar ..	55	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	57	*President*—S. S. Nagarseth, Vakil.	*Secretary*—T. A. Mhaldar.
Miraj ..	56	Satara Division Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union —1926.	125	*President*—M. K. Attavle, B.A., LL.B., Sangli.	*Secretary*—Ismail Saheb Salati, Miraj.
		Total Members, Rest of the Presidency ..	8,817		
		Total Members Bombay Presidency ..	75,602		

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available.	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City— ..	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union.	1,521	As. 4 per month ..	856
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,550	Rs. 1-8-0 per month for those earning over Rs. 100 ("A" class memers); Re. 1 per month for those earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 ("B" class members); As. 12 per month for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 ("C" class members); As. 6 per month for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 ("D" class members); and As. 3 for those earning less than Rs. 25 ("E" class members).	2,300
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union.	788	Rs. 3 per year ..	667
	4	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union.	626	As. 2 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50.	242
	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.	654	Do. ..	248

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—contd.	6	The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union.	213	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	107
	7	The Clerk's Union	22	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpokli Mandal).	*Nil*	Re. 1 per year ..	*Nil*
	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union.*	551	As. 4 per month for postmen (overseers, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for packers (runners, local peons, boy messengers and packers).	454
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	269	As. 4 per month ..	230
	11	The Bombay Currency Association.	35	Rs. 3 for clerks and annas 8 for menials per year.	26
	12	Bombay Postal Union.	448	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	227
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	150	As. 4 per month ..	104

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—contd.	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.*	82	As. 4 per month ..	32
	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union.	145	Do. ..	38
	16	The Seamen's Union.	1,696	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,507
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employees' Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.	60	As. 2 to As. 8 per month according to pay.	36
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	309	As. 8 per month for clerks and Superior Staff; As. 4 for adult menials and As. 2 for boy menials per month.	124
	20	The Wadi Bunder Staff Union.	125	Six annas and four annas per month according to pay.	25
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union.	40	As 4 per month for clerical staff and As. 2 per month below clerical.	10
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union.	..	*Not yet decided.*	
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union.	1,000	As. 4 per month ..	600
	24	The Winders' Union.	..	As. 2 per month ..	

*See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ahmedabad—contd.	25	The Throstle Union.	1,500	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker per fortnight.	1,000
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	650	As. 4 per month ..	350
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union.	35	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fireman per month.	1
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	..	As. 8 per jobber or mukadam per month.	
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	..	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; and Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	425
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	161	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	51
	31	Gujarat Postmen's Union.	31	Rupee one per annum per postman, and annas eight per annum per packer.	7
Sukkur ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	225	Subscription at the rate of ½ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	130
Karachi ..	33	N. W. Railway Recognised Union (Karachi District)	250		200
Poona ..	34	The Press Workers' Union.	4	As. 12 per year ..	About 2

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Poona—contd.	35	Poona Postal Union	100	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	74
	36	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union.	82	As. 8 per clerk, sorter or inspector; As. 2 per mailguard and one anna per peon or porter per month.	72
	37	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	76	As. 4 per month ..	61
Broach ..	38	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	6	Do. ..	3
Ahmednagar ..	39	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	51	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	12
Belgaum ..	40	Belgaum Postal Union.	30	Do.	12
	41	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	7	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
Dharwar ..	42	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	51	As 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	13
Jalgaon ..	43	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	52	Do. ..	15
Nasik ..	44	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	57	Do. ..	8
	45	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	4	As. 4 per month ..	1

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ratnagiri ..	46	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	53	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	11
Satara ..	47	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	113	Do. ..	101
Surat ..	48	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	36	Do. .	2
	49	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	6	As. 4 per month ..	7
Baroda ..	50	Baroda Postal Union.	92	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	19
	51	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	67	Do. ..	67
	52	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	13	As. 4 per month ..	12
Bhavnagar ..	53	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	..†	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	†
Rajkot ..	54	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	14	Do. ..	2
Karwar ..	55	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	14	As. 4 per month ..	7
Miraj ..	56	Satara Division Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	..†	As. 4 per month ..	†

† Not reported.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN FEBRUARY 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. The Emperor Edward Mill, Reay Road, Mazagon, Bombay.	692	...	16 Jan.	7 Feb ..	Alleged reduction in the rates of wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Bhagirath Ramchandra Cloth Mill, Jalgaon.	150	...	28 Feb.	...	Reduction of 50 per cent. in dearness allowances.	No settlement reported.
3. Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills, DeLisle Road, Bombay.	275	...	28 Feb.	...	Demand for higher wages.	No settlement reported.
Metal						
4. The Oriental Iron Works, Darukhana, Mazagon, Bombay.	60	...	4 Feb.	7 Feb.	Delay in payment of overtime wages.	Strike ended in favour of the workers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1927

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to		Nature of injury			Total No. of persons injured
	Machinery in motion	Other causes	Fatal	Serious	Minor	
	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927
I Textile Mills—						
Cotton Mills	78(b)	45	4	36	85	125
Woollen Mills	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others	1	2	..	..	3	3
Total	79	47	4	36	88	128
II Workshops—						
Engineering	11	74	..	5	80	85
Railway	32	326	..	37	321	358
Mint	1	..	..	..	1	1
Others	..	2(a)	..	..	3	3
Total	44	402	..	42	405	447
III Miscellaneous—						
Chemical Works	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flour Mills	..	..	..	..	..	..
Printing Presses	1	3	..	2	2	4
Others	3	2(a)	..	3	3	6
Total	4	5	..	5	5	10
Total, All Factories	127	454	4	83	498	585

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to		Nature of injury			Total No. of persons injured
	Machinery in motion	Other causes	Fatal	Serious	Minor	
	Jan. and Feb.1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927
I Textile Mills—						
Cotton	33	26	1	30	28	59
Total	33	26	1	30	28	59
I Miscellaneous—						
Match Factory	2	1	..	2	1	3
Flour Mills	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	2	1	..	2	1	3
Total, All Factories	35	27	1	32	29	62

Explanations :—(a) Two persons injured by one accident.

(b) Three persons injured by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1927—contd.

3. Karachi City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to		Nature of injury			Total No. of persons injured
	Machinery in motion	Other causes	Fatal	Serious	Minor	
	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927
I Workshops—						
Railway and Port Trust ..	..	4	..	..	4	4
Engineering	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	4	..	..	4	4
II Miscellaneous	2	3	..	1	4	5
Total ..	2	3	..	1	4	5
Total, All Factories ..	2	7	..	1	8	9

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to		Nature of injury			Total No. of persons injured
	Machinery in motion	Other causes	Fatal	Serious	Minor	
	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927	Jan. and Feb. 1927
I Textile Mills—						
Cotton Mills	14	12(c)	13	14	12	39
Others	2	..	..	..	2	2
Total ..	16	12	13	14	14	41
II Workshops—						
Railway	5	57	.	8	54	62
Arms and Ammunition Works ..	1	5	..	3	3	6
Others	1	2	..	1	2	3
Total ..	7	64	..	12	59	71
III Miscellaneous—						
Ginning and Pressing factories ..	5	7(a)	5	2	6	13
Paint Works	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others	2	7	1	2	6	9
Total ..	7	14	6	4	12	22
Total, All Factories ..	30	90	19	30	85	134

Explanations :—(a) 2 persons injured by one accident.
(c) 13 persons injured by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of January			10 months ended January		
		1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	.. ,, ..	6,625	8,002	6,555	57,145	52,408	69,840
Nos. 11 to 20	.. ,, ..	21,848	19,230	19,740	186,181	159,995	188,905
Nos. 21 to 30	.. ,, ..	14,043	13,283	13,815	133,469	112,648	141,719
Nos. 31 to 40	.. ,, ..	866	1,282	1,514	12,110	10,663	16,586
Above 40	.. ,, ..	834	674	997	4,862	4,182	8,841
Waste, etc.	. ,, ..	10	82	110	106	451	1,052
	Total ..	44,226	42,553	42,731	393,873	340,647	426,943

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	.. ,, ..	5,973	7,004	5,656	50,596	44,459	61,628
Nos. 11 to 20	.. ,, ..	15,408	12,147	13,046	128,108	91,950	128,333
Nos. 21 to 30	.. ,, ..	8,890	7,621	8,000	82,705	62,331	85,766
Nos. 31 to 40	.. ,, ..	608	617	766	6,883	4,598	7,719
Above 40	.. ,, ..	325	307	457	2,703	1,985	3,465
Waste, etc.	.. ,, ..	3	76	101	28	366	957
	Total ..	31,207	27,772	28,026	271,023	205,689	287,868

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	.. ,, ..	202	326	223	2,045	2,593	2,177
Nos. 11 to 20	.. ,, ..	3,280	3,967	3,767	30,923	37,873	32,916
Nos. 21 to 30	.. ,, ..	4,124	4,329	4,491	38,509	38,971	41,239
Nos. 31 to 40	.. ,, ..	465	525	598	4,173	4,536	7,082
Above 40	.. ,, ..	129	301	419	1,378	1,578	4,096
Waste, etc.	.. ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	8,200	9,448	9,498	77,028	85,551	87,510

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of January			10 months ended January		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,,	1,192	1,252	2,407	13,459	11,376	18,902
Chudders ,,	1,132	1,132	934	13,791	14,404	15,222
Dhoties ,,	6,396	7,063	7,720	59,728	64,840	75,363
Drills and jeans ,,	1,220	1,076	1,403	9,781	7,713	10,613
Cambrics and lawns ,,	24	24	33	528	472	298
Printers ,,	427	230	237	3,514	2,341	1,650
Shirtings and long cloth ,,	8,995	9,219	8,008	82,256	78,652	91,300
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ,,	858	900	1,728	10,067	9,691	13,822
Tent cloth ,,	187	152	150	1,822	1,335	1,185
Other sorts ,,	563	615	496	5,292	4,921	4,388
Total ,,	20,994	21,663	23,116	200,238	195,945	232,743
Coloured piece-goods ,,	7,998	8,024	10,814	87,212	76,821	100,234
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ,,	170	216	209	1,587	2,033	2,252
Hosiery ,,	20	20	27	160	207	218
Miscellaneous ,,	116	97	248	1,492	1,471	2,410
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,,	6	57	171	99	483	1,633
Grand Total ,,	29,304	30,077	34,585	290,788	276,960	339,490

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,,	841	832	2,006	9,347	8,105	16,518
Chudders ,,	624	656	565	8,637	9,137	10,476
Dhotis ,,	1,798	1,555	2,678	17,561	17,483	23,469
Drills and jeans ,,	1,132	864	1,244	8,803	6,420	9,693
Cambrics and lawns ,,	10	7	9	409	210	50
Printers ,,	1	..	..	33	19	..
Shirtings and long cloth ,,	6,171	6,184	5,931	58,636	55,187	70,387
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ,,	703	618	1,258	8,090	6,721	9,858
Tent cloth ,,	108	109	120	728	802	1,008
Other sorts ,,	284	338	298	2,324	2,022	2,469
Total ,,	11,672	11,163	14,109	114,568	106,106	143,948
Coloured piece-goods ,,	5,760	4,998	7,641	67,606	52,262	71,903
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods ,,	168	210	203	1,527	1,941	2,166
Hosiery ,,	7	5	6	78	62	54
Miscellaneous ,,	84	71	205	1,208	1,156	1,960
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,,	6	43	121	80	384	1,134
Grand Total ,,	17,697	16,49	22,285	185,067	161,911	221,165

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—contd.

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of January			10 months ended January		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,, ..	268	110	119	2,967	987	685
Chudders ,, ..	402	402	307	3,987	4,085	3,676
Dhotis ,, ..	3,711	4,588	4,160	33,137	37,302	42,426
Drills and jeans ,, ..	11	122	20	220	492	244
Cambrics and lawns ,, ..	12	15	23	102	188	243
Printers ,, ..	318	169	133	2,460	1,550	853
Shirtings and long cloth ,, ..	2,469	2,430	1,518	19,115	18,521	15,539
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings ,, ..	130	232	367	1,794	2,819	3,122
Tent cloth ,, ..	75	36	3	1,000	453	18
Other sorts ,, ..	196	221	136	1,939	2,019	1,071
Total ,, ..	7,592	8,325	6,786	66,721	68,416	67,877
Coloured piece-goods ,, ..	1,501	2,195	2,004	11,055	15,555	17,969
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ,, ..	..	1	2	7	10	16
Hosiery ,, ..	13	14	21	82	143	163
Miscellaneous ,, ..	31	26	35	235	268	400
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,, ..	1	14	49	8	89	485
Grand Total ,, ..	9,138	10,575	8,897	78,108	84,481	86,910

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Feb 1926	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927	July 1914	Feb. 1926	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 4 11	6 6 10	6 3 1	100	134	137	132
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 8 0	8 6 0	7 12 0	100	152	150	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	80 0 0	87 8 0	100	156	178	194
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	54 8 0	58 8 0	57 0 0	100	136	146	143
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 14 8	4 12 2 (1)	4 7 1 (1)	100	124	151	141
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 8 10	4 8 10	4 7 1	100	139	139	135
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 4 8	5 9 9	5 4 8	100	161	171	161
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	143	153	149
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 12 2	5 4 8	5 3 0	100	112	125	123
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	6 14 1	7 15 0	8 7 5	100	122	140	150
Index No.—Pulses ..							100	117	133	137
Index No.—Food grains ..							100	137	149	146
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0				100	..	..	..
Do	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	17 12 0	18 0 0	17 6 0	100	174	177	171
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	9 8 5	9 8 5	8 7 0	100	121	121	107
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	148	149	139
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	8 10 3	7 3 4	8 13 6	100	155	129	159
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	80 0 0	74 4 7	74 4 7	100	175	163	163
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 2 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	145	128	128
Index No.—Other food ..							100	158	140	150
Index No.—All Food ..							100	143	147	146
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 15 0	10 10 0	10 15 0	100	123	119	113
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	11 1 0	11 1 0	11 1 0	100	138	138	138
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 0 0	16 12 0	17 8 0	100	120	154	161
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	15 3 0	15 12 0	17 0 0	100	135	140	151
Index No.—Oilseeds ..					..		100	129	138	143

Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	374 0 0			100	149	..	..
Oomra	Do.	,,	222 0 0	347 0 0	246 0 0 (2)	269 0 0 (2)	100	156	111	121
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	,,	230 0 0				100	..	..	..
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	,,	205 0 0	310 0 0	231 0 0	253 0 0	100	151	113	126
Bengal	Do.	,,	198 0 0	284 0 0	229 0 0	254 0 0	100	143	116	128
Index No.—Cotton, raw			...	..			100	150	113	125
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 4 6	0 15 6	1 1 6	100	161	122	137
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	10 4 0	8 9 0	8 14 0	100	173	144	149
White mulls	6,000	,,	4 3 0	9 10 0	8 14 0	9 6 0	100	230	212	215
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	,,	10 6 0	20 12 0	17 4 0	18 8 0	100	200	166	178
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 6	0 13 6	0 1 9	100	184	142	155
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	,,	0 9 6	1 0 0	0 13 0	0 13 6	100	168	137	142
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			..	..	..	..	100	186	154	163
Index No.—Textile—Cotton			.	..	..		100	172	140	150
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 13 8	6 0 3	6 0 3	100	133	117	117
Do.	Mathew Lari	,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 8 1	4 8 1	100	160	153	153
Index No.—Other Textiles				..	..	...	100	147	135	135
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 13 9	1 10 6	1 8 7	100	161	143	133
Do. Buffalo	Do	,,	1 1 3	0 15 5	0 13 11	0 12 0	100	89	81	70
Skins, Goat	Do.	,,	1 4 0	2 9 9	2 8 6	2 8 8	100	279	202	203
Index No.—Hides and Skins	.. .						100	153	142	135
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 0 0	56 12 0	58 0 0	100	99	94	96
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	10 4 0	10 2 0	10 2 0	100	132	131	131
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	14 6 0	14 1 0	13 8 0	100	160	156	150
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	21 0 0	21 8 0	100	194	240	246
Index No.—Metals				.. .		. ..	100	152	158	158
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	21 10 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	147	142	142
Do.	Imported	,,	19 11 6	21 9 6	26 0 2	25 . 8	100	110	132	128
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	170	175	175
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles		.. .	..			.	100	153	160	159
Index No —Food				.. .			100	143	147	146
Index No.—Non-food			..	.		.	100	156	146	149
General Index No.							100	151	146	148

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality. (2) Quotation for Oomra, Fine.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Feb 1926	Jan 1927	Feb. 1927	July 1914	Feb. 1926	Jan. 1927	Feb. 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs a. p				
Cereals—				(1)	(3)	(3)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	59 4 0	56 4 0	60 4 0	100	152	144	154
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red ..	,,	31 8 0	50 0 0	43 4 0	44 0 0	100	159	137	140
,, red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red ..	,,	31 4 0	49 0 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	157	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	51 8 0	44 8 0	45 6 0	100	158	137	140
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	50 8 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	157	127	127
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	42 8 0	35 0 0	37 0 0	100	167	137	145
Barley	3% dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	32 8 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	123	136	136
Index No.—Cereals ..			...		..		100	153	135	138
Pulses—					(2)	(2)				
Gram	1% dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	41 0 0	40 8 0	43 8 0	100	139	137	147
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white ..	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 14 0	17 2 0	16 3 0	100	174	188	177
,, ...	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6		15 6 0	15 0 0	100	..	190	185
Index No.—Sugar ..		.. .			..		100	174	189	181
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 10 6	1 12 0	100	78	78	82
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 8 0	3 15 0	4 5 0	100	129	146	160
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0		..		100	..	..	..
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture ..	,,	62 0 0	88 0 0	91 0 0	98 0 0	100	142	147	158
Index No.—Oilseeds ..					..		100	136	147	159
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	64 0 0	53 0 0	52 4 0	100	167	139	137

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	30 10 0	25 12 0	29 4 0	100	151	127	144
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	20 0 0	14 6 0	14 12 0	100	196	141	144
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	21 0 0	17 8 0	17 4 0	100	207	173	170
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..					..		100	202	157	157
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..					..		100	185	147	153
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund	28 0 0	41 0 0	35 0 0	35 8 0	100	146	125	127
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	14 12 0	14 12 0	100	64	69	69
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	13 8 0	14 12 0	14 12 0	100	64	69	69
Index No.—Hides ..					..		100	64	69	69
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	61 0 0	58 8 0	58 0 0	100	101	97	96
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	6 0 0	100	161	161	155
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	6 2 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	100	140	160	154
Index No.—Metals ..					..		100	134	139	135
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	21 8 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	134	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	165	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles					..		100	161	165	165
Index No.—Food ..					..		100	146	140	142
Index No.—Non-food ..					..		100	143	137	139
General Index No. ..					..		100	145	138	140

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation (1) Quotation for Lal ana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
February ..	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	174	160	188	188
1925														
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous.	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(c) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117	119	103		105 (m)
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116		146	140	106		118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146		190	180	114		142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197	...	253	229	118		174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	205		275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 "	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 "	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 "	157	170	144	(a) 149	(l) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173 (m)
1925 "	157	173	146			598	509		169	133		
" September	151	174	149	155		624	525	248	167	132	401	
" October	153	176	149			643	533		165	132		
" November	153	176	152			643	534		165	131		
" December	155	177	154	156		649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155			665	527		167	131		
" February	154	173	154		162	661	526		165	131		
" March	155	172	154	156		654	521	225		131	451	
" April	153	168	153			642	529			131		
" May	153	167	152			652	558		160	132		
" June	155	168	150	161		650	579	218	162	131	485	175
" July	157	170	150			649	637		162	130		
" August	155	170	150		163	652	681		161	130		
" September	155	172	149	158		657	684		161	130	539	
" October	155	174	148			672	705	218	161	131		
" November	154	179	150			657	730	..	161	131		
" December	156	179	151	...		657	741	..	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152				755		...			
" February	155	172			162							
" March	155		...									

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100 (f) Average for 1914 = 100 (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 " ..	100	96			106	(e) 100		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 " ..		97			147	102		140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 " ..		117			138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 " ..		149			153	169		262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 " ..	236	196			178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 " ..	222	236			189	226		356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 " ..	216	259	152		228	299	307	509	292	(a) 377	347	244	226
1921 " ..	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 " ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 " ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 " ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 February ..	173	210	159	177	170	161	169	515	158	281	164	165	161
" March ..	171	204	160	179	168	155	166	514	155	276	164	162	161
" April ..	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
" May ..	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
" June ..	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
" July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
" August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
" September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
" October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
" November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
" December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
" February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
" March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
" April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
" May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
" June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
" July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
" August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
" September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
" October ..	147	174	171	(b) 161	167	129	152	751	143	1 8	142	151	150
" November ..	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	130	152	6 4	147	182	142	152	149
" December ..	146	170	172	159			146	627	147		141	151	147
1927 January ..	146		173	159			144						147
" February ..	148												..

*July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (4) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100 (h)
1915 ,,	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 ,,	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 ,,	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 ,,	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,,	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,,	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,,	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,,	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e) 184	157
1923 ,,	148	167	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	136	218	160	(e) 188	166
1924 ,,	151	162	134	117	149(c)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e) 200	170
1925 July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
,, August	147	168	146	119	156	152	..	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	..	228	166	..	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(f)175	216	162	..	167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	..
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	..
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052	..	194	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	..	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	149	..	587	660	193	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
,, September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
,, October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1 091	..	191	157	..	160
,, November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1 081	164	186	158	..	159
,, December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	209	1,081	..	184	157	156	159
1927 January	155	167	153	..	..	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	190	156	..	..
,, February	152	164	..	..	..	146	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, March	152	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Jan. 1927	Karachi Jan. 1927	Ahmedabad Jan. 1927	Sholapur Jan. 1927	Poona Jan. 1927	Bombay Feb. 1927	Karachi Feb. 1927	Ahmedabad Feb. 1927	Sholapur Feb. 1927	Poona Feb. 1927
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund	7 8 9 *135*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	8 1 4 *140*	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	7 11 1 *133*
Wheat	„	7 5 8 *131*	5 13 11 *139*	6 10 8 *142*	7 1 0 *137*	8 0 0 *149*	7 9 7 *136*	6 3 5 *148*	6 15 4 *148*	6 12 6 *131*	8 1 11 *151*
Jowari	„	5 11 2 *131*	4 8 1 *124*	5 0 0 131	4 7 7 *156*	5 10 9 *165*	5 15 3 *137*	4 9 2 *126*	5 1 3 *133*	4 1 2 *142*	5 8 11 *162*
Bajri	„	5 13 6 *135*	4 15 5 *118*	5 8 3 *117*	4 7 0 *126*	5 9 10 *137*	5 12 4 *134*	5 8 3 *131*	6 2 6 *131*	4 3 7 *120*	6 1 11 *149*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*133*	*125*	*130*	*145*	*148*	*135*	*131*	*136*	*138*	*149*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 6 8 *149*	5 11 5 *150*	5 11 5 *143*	5 4 11 *124*	5 10 5 *116*	6 10 11 *155*	5 11 5 *150*	5 11 5 *143*	5 4 11 *124*	5 13 11 *121*
Turdal	„	8 10 7 *148*	8 10 5 *130*	8 14 3 *144*	7 15 4 *136*	10 8 5 *159*	8 13 2 *151*	9 4 5 *139*	8 14 3 *144*	8 5 0 *142*	10 2 6 *154*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*149*	*140*	*144*	*130*	*138*	*153*	*145*	*144*	*133*	*138*

Other articles of food—												
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	14 4 7 *187*	13 1 0 *180*	13 14 7 *174*	14 8 9 *145*	14 10 10 *157*	14 4 7 *187*	12 12 10 *176*	13 14 7 *174*	14 8 9 *145*	14 0 7 *150*	
Jagri (gul)	„	13 11 1 *160*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	10 0 0 *129*	10 1 0 *143*	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	10 0 0 *129*	8 6 9 *120*	
Tea	Lb.	0 15 8 *201*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 2 *194*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	
Salt	Maund	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 7 6 *156*	2 13 5 *151*	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 5 9 *151*	2 13 5 *151*	
Beef	Seer	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 6 2 *103*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 5 *74*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	
Mutton	„	0 12 10 *192*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 11 0 *183*	0 13 4 *200*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 *191*	10 0 0 *225*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	8 1 7 *182*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	
Ghee	„	16 6 10 *190*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	68 1 4 *121*	74 6 8 *144*	94 0 9 *185*	69 9 0 *163*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	66 10 8 *133*	
Potatoes	„	9 8 5 *213*	4 7 1 *82*	8 0 0 *210*	8 14 3 *222*	6 0 3 *179*	7 2 3 *159*	4 0 5 *74*	4 5 2 *114*	6 2 6 *154*	5 4 2 *156*	
Onions	„	7 2 3 *460*	4 2 1 *227*	5 11 5 *286*	6 10 8 *267*	4 6 11 *221*	5 15 3 *384*	5 7 6 *301*	5 0 0 *250*	5 0 0 *200*	3 8 2 *175*	
Cocoanut oil	„	28 9 2 *113*	25 1 7 *102*	32 0 0 *160*	30 7 7 *114*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	
Index No.—Other articles of food ..	..	*202*	*170*	*176*	*171*	*159*	*190*	*172*	*162*	*159*	*148*	
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*179*	*156*	*162*	*160*	*154*	*173*	*159*	*153*	*151*	*147*	

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August .. .	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September .. .	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January .. .	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September . ..	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October ..	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November . ..	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February . .	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June .. .	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September . ..	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

VOL. VII] BOMBAY, APRIL, 1927 [No. 8

The Month in Brief

FINES IN INDUSTRY

On pages 747 to 758 of this issue will be found a summary of the report on the Labour Office enquiry into deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines together with a copy of a circular letter addressed to 24 bodies and associations for their views on the necessity or otherwise of legislation on the subject.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of March 1927. The average absenteeism was 9·05 per cent. for Bombay City, 1·83 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0·60 per cent. for Viramgaum, 12·91 per cent. for Sholapur and 7·48 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 14·50 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 16·12 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 9·50 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 6·80.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In April 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 153 as against 155 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 151.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 148 for the month of March 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in progress during March 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 1521 and the number of working days lost 5987.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During March 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities in favour of India amounted to Rs. 698 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for April 1927

A FALL OF TWO POINTS

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **53 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **51 per cent.**

In April 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City declined by 2 points as compared with the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 155 in March and 153 in April 1927. The general index was 40 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and two points lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for the food group recorded a fall of one point during the month. Rice remained stationary but all the other cereals declined in price—wheat by 7 points, jowari by 2 points and bajri by 3 points, the index number for Cereals having decreased by one point to 133. The fall of 6 points in Pulses was due to a decline of 6 points in gram and of 4 points in turdal. Among other food articles ghee advanced by 5 points but tea, potatoes and onions declined by 3, 13 and 38 points respectively. There was a rise of 7 points in mutton but the price of beef remained unchanged. The other food index number was 178 as against 179 in the preceding month.

The "fuel and lighting" index remained stationary at 166. The clothing group declined by 9 points to 143.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	53
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November .	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between March 16 and April 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—APRIL

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Mar. 1927	April 1927	July 1914	Mar. 1927	April 1927
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·469	7·469	391·58	522·83	522·83
Wheat	„	21	5·594	7·682	7·271	117·47	161·32	152·69
Jowari	„	11	4·354	5·781	5·698	47·89	63·59	62·68
Bajri	„	6	4·313	5·927	5·771	25·88	35·56	34·63
Total—Cereals						582·82	783·30	772·83
Index Numbers—Cereals						*100*	*134*	*133*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·943	6·682	43·02	69·43	66·82
Turdal	„	3	5·844	8·906	8·662	17·53	26·72	25·99
Total—Pulses						60·55	96·15	92·81
Index Numbers—Pulses						*100*	*159*	*153*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	14·287	14·287	15·24	28·57	28·57
Raw Sugar (Gul)	„	7	8·557	13·693	13·693	59·90	95·85	95·85
Tea	„	½	40·000	78·203	77·349	1·00	1·96	1·93
Salt	„	5	2·130	3·313	3·313	10·65	16·57	16·57
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·500	0·500	9·04	14·00	14·00
Mutton	„	33	0·417	0·813	0·844	13·76	26·83	27·85
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	„	1½	50·792	94·641	97·026	76·19	141·96	145·54
Potatoes	„	11	4·479	7·141	6·547	49·27	78·55	72·02
Onions	„	3	1·552	5·359	4·760	4·66	16·08	14·28
Cocoanut Oil	„	½	25·396	28·573	28·573	12·70	14·29	14·29
Total—Other food articles						381·18	680·82	677·06
Index Numbers—Other food articles						*100*	*179*	*178*
Total—All food articles						1,024·55	1,560·27	1,542·70
Index Numbers—All food articles						*100*	*152*	*151*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·49
Coal	„	1	0·542	0·771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60·44	100·54	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·844	0·844	16·04	22·79	22·79
Shirtings	„	25	0·641	0·979	0·969	16·03	24·48	24·23
T. Cloth	„	36	0·583	0·922	0·797	20·99	33·19	28·69
Total—Clothing						53·06	80·45	75·71
Index Numbers—Clothing						*100*	*152*	*143*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent						*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total						**1,251·07**	**1,935·67**	**1,913·35**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						**100**	**155**	**153**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in March and April 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

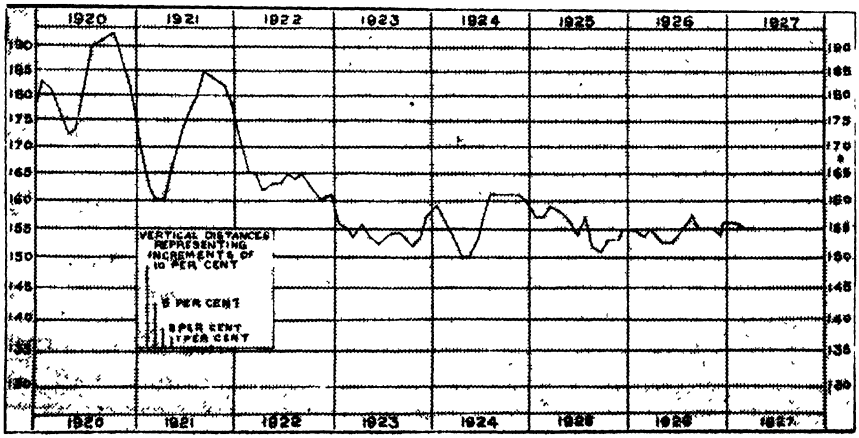
Articles	July 1914	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Apr. 1927 over or below Mar. 1927	Articles	July 1914	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in Apr. 1927 over or below Mar. 1927
Rice ..	100	134	134	..	Salt ..	100	156	156	..
Wheat ..	100	137	130	—7	Beef ..	100	155	155	..
Jowari ..	100	133	131	—2	Mutton .	100	195	202	+ 7
Bajri ..	100	137	134	—3	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	161	155	—6	Ghee ..	100	186	191	+ 5
Turdal ..	100	152	148	— 4	Potatoes ..	100	159	146	—13
Sugar (refined)	100	187	187	..	Onions ..	100	345	307	—38
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	160	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	196	193	-3	Ali food articles (weighted average) ..	100	152	151	-1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 25, Wheat 23, Jowari 24, Bajri 25, Gram 35, Turdal 32, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 38, Tea 48, Salt 36, Beef 35, Mutton 50, Milk 48, Ghee 48, Potatoes 32, Onions 67, Cocoanut Oil 12.

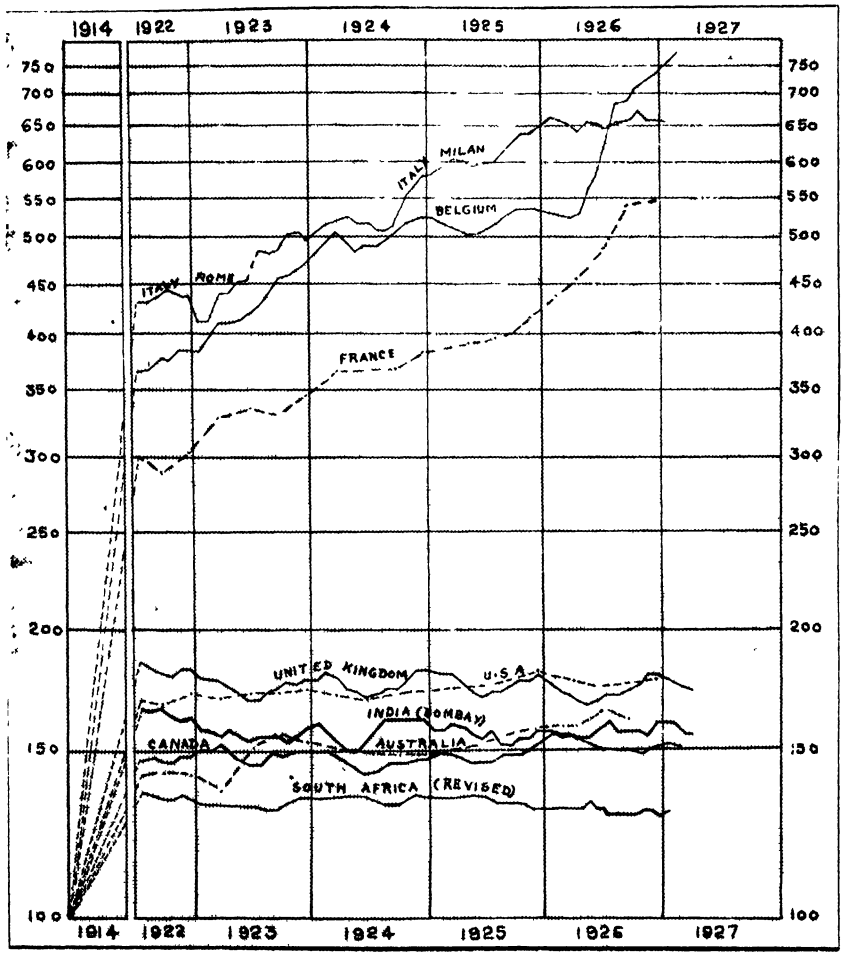
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 7 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos.: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Index Remains Stationary

In March 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 148, the same as in the previous month. As compared with February 1927, there was a fall of 2 points in the food group but the non-food group recorded no change. The general index number was 115 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and one point below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains declined by 2 points to 144 due to a fall of one point in Cereals and of 4 points in Pulses. Rice advanced by 2 points, wheat, barley and turdal were practically stationary while jowari, bajri and gram fell by 4, 9 and 8 points respectively during the month under review.

There was a fall of 4 points in the " Sugar " group due to a decrease both in refined sugar and in gul. The " other food " index declined by one point to 149 owing to a slight fall in the price of turmeric.

Under the non-food group, there was a rise of one point in Oilseeds, of 7 points in Raw cotton and of 2 points each in Hides and skins and Other raw and manufactured articles. Other textiles and Metals registered a fall of 1 and 2 points respectively whilst Cotton manufactures showed no change.

The sub-joined table compares March 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year :—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** — *100 = average of 1926*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Feb. 1927	+ or − % compared with Mar. 1926	Groups	Mar. 1926	June 1926	Sept. 1926	Dec. 1926	Feb. 1927	Mar 1927
1. Cereals ..	7	− 1	..	1. Cereals ..	101	103	103	98	102	101
2. Pulses ..	2	− 3	+14	2. Pulses ..	93	102	103	104	109	106
3. Sugar ..	3	− 3	− 8	3. Sugar ..	97	101	104	104	93	90
4. Other food ..	3	− 1	− 2	4. Other food ..	101	98	98	95	99	99
All food ..	15	− 1	..	All food ..	99	101	102	99	101	99
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 1	+13	5. Oilseeds ..	95	106	104	99	107	107
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 6	− 8	6. Raw cotton ..	103	101	106	78	89	94
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	..	−12	7. Cotton manufactures ..	106	103	98	89	93	93
8. Other textiles .	2	− 1	− 8	8. Other textiles	106	96	97	96	99	98
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 1	− 7	9. Hides & skins	99	97	91	101	91	93
10. Metals ..	5	− 1	+ 3	10. Metals ..	100	99	97	107	105	103
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 1	+ 5	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	97	99	104	105	106
All non-food ..	29	..	− 3	All non-food ..	101	99	99	97	98	98
General Index No.	44	..	− 1	General Index No.	101	101	100	98	99	99

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 768.

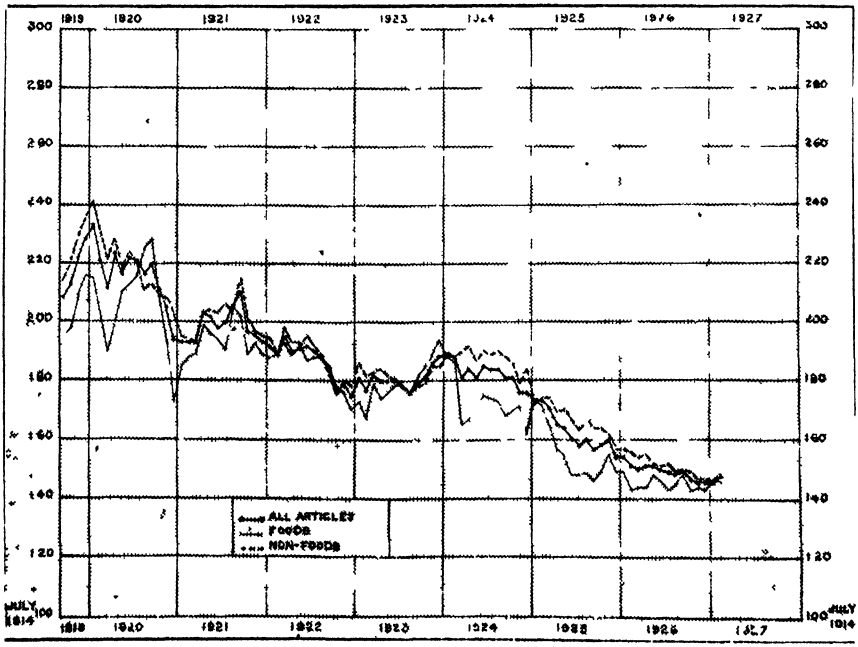
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920 .	206	219	216
„ „ 1921 . ..	193	201	199
„ „ 1922 .. .	186	187	187
„ „ 1923 .. .	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926 .. .	145	152	149
Three-monthly „ 1927	146	148	147

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

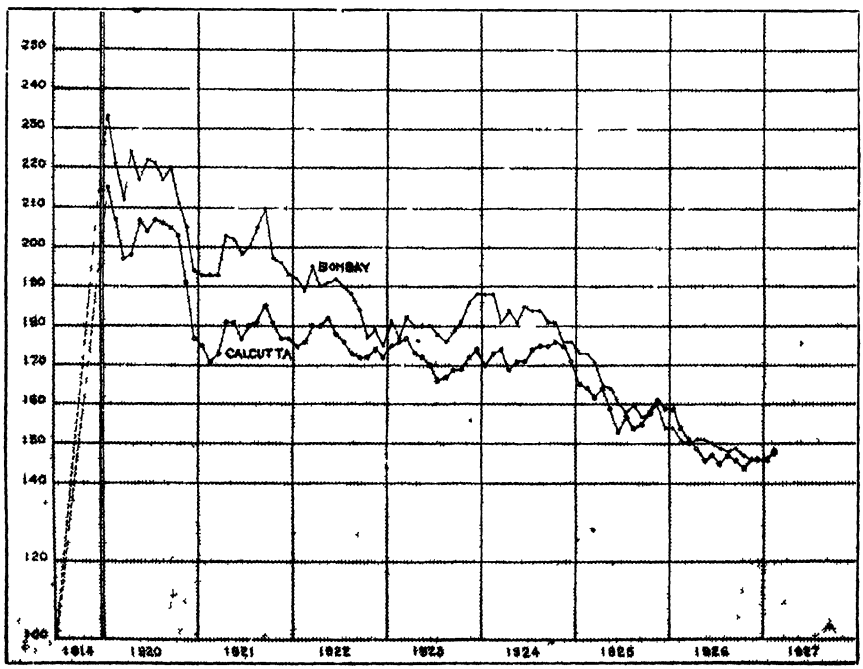


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

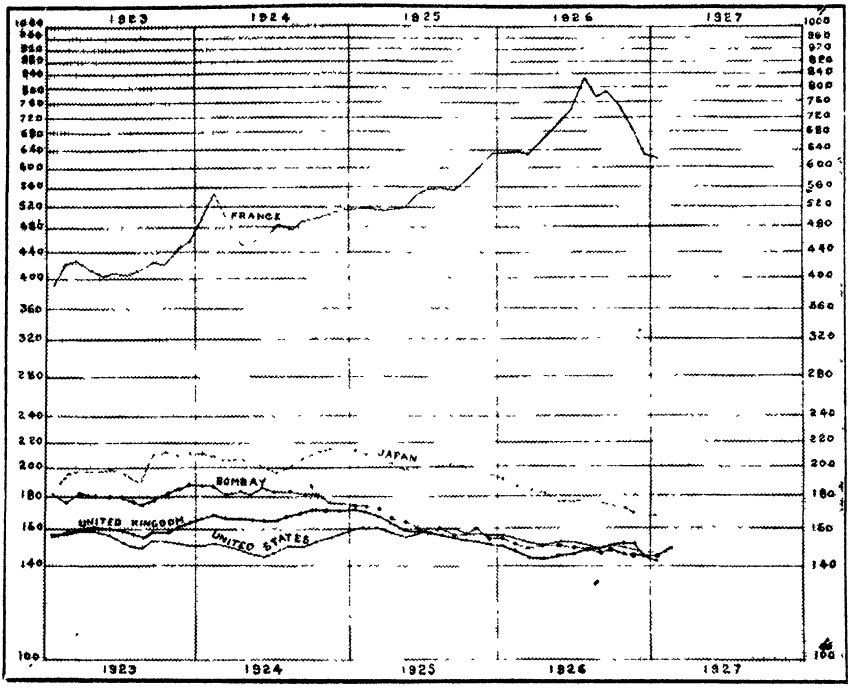
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in "*The Statist.*"

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in Mar. 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	Feb. 1927
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee .	212	5 10	7 11	7 11	+2 1	..
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 9	7 10	+2 0	+0 1
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 10	5 8	+1 5	—0 2
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 0	6 2	+1 7	+0 2
Gram ..	Delhi ..	,,	192	4 4	6 5	6 8	+2 4	+0 3
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	9 0	9 1	+3 2	+0 1
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	2 0	2 0	+0 11	..
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	,, ..	28	1 2	2 0	1 11	+0 9	—0 1
Tea ..	Loose-Ceylon, powder	Lb ..	39	7 10	15 2	15 3	+7 5	+0 1
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 10	2 11	+1 2	+0 1
Beef .		Lb. ..	39	2 6	4 0	3 11	+1 5	—0 1
Mutton ..		,, ..	39	3 0	6 6	6 4	+3 4	—0 2
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,, ..	28	7 1	13 2	13 3	+6 2	+0 1
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,, .	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+0 4	..
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,, ..	28	0 3	0 10	0 9	+0 6	—0 1
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,, ..	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	..

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat:—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during March 1927 as compared with the previous month were slight. Under food-grains, wheat and turdal rose by one pie each per paylee, bajri and gram recorded a rise of 2 and 3 pies respectively per paylee while jowari declined by 2 pies per paylee. The price of rice remained the same. Amongst other food articles, ghee advanced by one pie per seer, salt by one pie per paylee and tea by one pie per lb.; but raw sugar (gul) and onions fell by one pie each per seer. The prices of beef and mutton per lb. were lower by 1 and 2 pies respectively during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914 all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 200 per cent. above their pre-war level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul and salt by more than 60 per cent. and potatoes and beef by more than 50 per cent. The rise in the prices of food grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its pre-war level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in February and March 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in February and March 1927 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in February 1927 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in March 1927 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	107	107	113	103	Rice ..	100	107	107	113	103
Wheat ..	100	82	92	89	107	Wheat ..	100	81	95	92	109
Jowari ..	100	77	85	68	93	Jowari ..	100	81	92	74	91
Bajri ..	100	96	107	73	106	Bajri ..	100	92	104	73	95
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	91	98	86	102	Cereals ..	100	90	100	88	100
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	86	86	79	88	Gram ..	100	85	77	81	90
Turdal ..	100	105	101	94	115	Turdal ..	100	112	100	95	103
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	96	94	87	102	Pulses ..	100	99	89	88	97
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	90	97	102	98	Sugar (refined) ..	100	88	94	102	98
Jagri (Gul)	100	80	80	70	59	Jagri (Gul).	100	83	83	67	59
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	108	Tea ..	100	102	102	117	108
Salt ..	100	62	71	104	88	Salt ..	100	60	69	101	86
Beef ..	100	110	54	61	74	Beef ..	100	113	51	56	75
Mutton ..	100	75	75	75	71	Mutton ..	100	77	77	69	69
Milk ..	100	46	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	43	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	74	76	76	71	Ghee ..	100	75	75	75	70
Potatoes ..	100	56	61	86	74	Potatoes ..	100	66	48	93	74
Onions ..	100	92	84	84	59	Onions ..	100	84	93	83	65
Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	80	79	88	80	Other articles of food ..	100	80	78	86	80
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**84**	**85**	**87**	**87**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**85**	**84**	**87**	**86**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles rose by one point at Karachi, was steady at Sholapur and declined by one point each at Ahmedabad and Poona. Referring back to March 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles is lower by 3, 9, 2 and 5 points respectively at Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice remained stationary and that of salt declined at all the four mofussil centres. Wheat fell at Karachi and jowari at Poona but both recorded a rise at the remaining three centres. The relative price of sugar (refined) and gram declined at Karachi and Ahmedabad. Ghee rose at Karachi and tea was unchanged at Poona but both showed a slight fall at the other centres. Milk was steady except at Karachi where it showed a small decrease. Potatoes and turdal advanced at Karachi and Sholapur.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in March .. 7 Workpeople involved .. 1,521

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during March 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in March 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in March 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in March 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in March 1927
	Started before 1st March	Started in March	Total		
Textile	2	5	7	1,521	5,987
Transport					
Engineering ..					
Metal					
Miscellaneous ..					
Total ..	2	5	7	1,521	5,987

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was seven all of which occurred in cotton mills. Two of the disputes were in Jalgaon, one in Ahmedabad and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in these seven disputes was 1,521 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 5,987.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, November 1926 to March 1927

	November 1926	December 1926	January 1927	February 1927	March 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	4	2	5	4	7
Disputes in progress at beginning		1		1	2
Fresh disputes begun	4	1	5	3	5
Disputes ended	3	2	4	2	6
Disputes in progress at end	1		1	2	1
Number of workpeople involved	1,216	712	4,002	1,177*	1,521
Aggregate duration in working days	3,094	1,251	16,507	775	5,987
Demands—					
Pay	2	2	3	4	3
Bonus					
Personal	2		1		4
Leave and hours					
Others			1		
Results—					
In favour of employees		1		1	
Compromised	1				1
In favour of employers	2	1	4	1	5

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, *viz.*, 692, which carried forward from January.

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
April 1926	3	3	3	13,087	67	33	..
May ,,	6	6	4	8,457	100	..	..
June ,,	9	7	7	1,752	100	..	..
July ,,	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August ,,	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ,,	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October ,,	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November ,,	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December ,,	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February ,,	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March ,,	7	5	6	5,987	83	..	17

† This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work, reported as beginning during the month of March 1927, was 5, as compared with 3 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 1096. In addition, 425 workpeople were involved in 2 disputes which had begun before March, and which were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of new and old disputes in progress was thus 7, involving 1521 workpeople, and resulting in a total time loss of 5987 working days. Of the 5 disputes beginning in March, four directly involving 708 workpeople, arose out of questions respecting the employment of particular persons. One involving 388 workpeople related to the question of wages. Settlements were arrived at in the case of 4 new disputes and the 2 old disputes. The results were favourable to the employers in 5 disputes, while the remaining dispute ended in a compromise.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

There were 4 disputes in progress in Bombay City during the month under review. One of these involving 275 workpeople, was a continuation of the dispute begun in the weaving department of the Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills during the previous month. There was no change in the situation during the first 6 days of the month and the weaving department was not opened for night-shift working. On the 7th the management put up a notice stating that as the strikers suspended work voluntarily, their services would be dispensed with and their outstanding wages paid on the 10th. The strikers, however, had no inclination to resume work. The outstanding wages were paid to all the strikers on the 10th and the 11th, and the management decided to discontinue night-shift working until further notice. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute took place in the Jacob Sassoon Mill, Bombay. As cases of theft of fine cloth had taken place in the Mill, the management decided that all the operatives of the folding department should be searched every day when they left the Mill. Two folders who were thus searched assaulted a sepoy and were, therefore, discharged on the 9th. Twenty-four operatives of the folding department struck work at 3-30 p.m. on the same day in sympathy with the dismissed men and demanded their re-instatement. The management, however, did not grant their demand and the strikers left the mill quietly at 5 p.m. On the next day they came to the mill but did not resume work. Their outstanding wages were paid in the afternoon. On the following day, however, all the strikers resumed work unconditionally. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

The third dispute occurred in the Bomanji Petit Mill on the 9th March. Two spinners in this Mill were promoted to be jobbers by the spinning

master, and a third spinner applied to the spinning-master for a similar promotion, but his request was refused. He, therefore, struck work after recess and 49 other spinners also stopped work in sympathy with him. On the next day, the strikers represented their case to the manager who told them that they should resume work immediately, otherwise they would have to leave the mill and to receive their wages on the next pay-day. On the 11th, 10 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the management engaged 16 new hands. Fifteen more strikers returned to work on the 12th and on the 14th the management discharged the remaining strikers and engaged new hands in their place. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

The fourth dispute occurred in the Madhavji Dharamsi Mill, where 506 weavers struck work on the 10th, demanding the re-instatement of 4 line jobbers whose services had been dispensed with by the management on account of inefficiency. In the evening on the same day, the management notified the strikers that if they did not resume work on the 11th, their wages would be forfeited. There was no change in the situation on the 11th but on the 12th, 60 strikers resumed work unconditionally. On the 14th, 430 more strikers returned to work in the morning, and, in the afternoon, the remaining 16 strikers also resumed work. This strike also terminated in favour of the employers.

AHMEDABAD

The weavers in the Shri Ambika Mills were given damaged cloth in lieu of their wages and they were also compelled to clean the looms while they were at work. The weavers were dissatisfied at this and when a jobber named Ismail was discharged by the management for inefficiency on the 30th, 128 weavers struck work. They demanded the re-instatement of the dismissed jobber and a redress of their other grievances. On the next day, 30 strikers resumed work unconditionally. In case the remaining strikers did not resume work, the management proposed to pay them off and engage new hands. The strike continued into the next month.

JALGAON

The dispute which began in the Bhagirath Ramchandra Cloth Mill during February continued into the month of March. On the 1st, 10 strikers resumed work and the management engaged 90 new hands. Negotiations for settlement were in progress and on the 3rd all the strikers resumed work unconditionally. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

In the same mill 105 operatives struck work again on the 7th demanding that the compensatory allowances should be restored to their original level. The number of strikers increased to 378 on the next day and the management engaged 41 new men. The Agents distributed handbills amongst the strikers, asking them to return to work on the 9th unconditionally and stating that if they did not do so, their outstanding wages would be forfeited. This had no effect. A deputation of the men waited on the District Magistrate who promised to intervene on their behalf and ask the management to grant them a compensatory allowance of 9 annas to the

rupee. This did not, however, satisfy the strikers. On the 9th the number of new hands working in the Mill was 59. On the 10th the strikers sent a notice to the management containing the following terms of settlement :—

1. That they should get full wages ;
2. That they should be allowed to resume work on the 11th ;
3. That they should get wages for the days they had struck work ; and
4. That none of the workers should be discharged for having taken part in the strike.

Four more operatives struck work on the 10th and the number of new hands working in the Mill increased to 79. The management engaged 34 additional new hands on the 11th. On the 12th, the strikers again met the District Magistrate and agreed to resume work on condition that they were given a compensatory allowance of 9 annas to the rupee. As promised, the strikers assembled at the Mill on the 13th, when the District Magistrate visited the place. The Mill was, however, closed on account of the Bazaar day. On the 14th all the strikers resumed work and the management agreed to pay them 9 annas in the rupee as compensatory allowance for a period of three months. The strike thus ended in a compromise.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency March 1927

BOMBAY

The manager of an oil mill was prosecuted under Section 41(*h*) and Section 43(*c*) for not maintaining a " D " register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

AHMEDNAGAR

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*h*) for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining a " D " form register and under Section 41(*i*) for breach of Section 36 for not putting up " R " form (an Abstract of Act and Rules). The manager was convicted and fined for Rs. 30 in each of two cases. (Total Rs. 60 for 2 cases.)

The manager of another ginning factory was similarly prosecuted under Section 41(*h*) and Section 41(*i*) for similar offences and he was convicted and fined Rs. 30 in each of two cases. (Total Rs. 60 for 2 cases.)

EAST KHANDESH

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75 for employing women before the legal hours. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20 in one case and Rs. 5 in each of fourteen cases. (Total Rs. 90 for 15 cases.)

The manager of another ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*h*) for not maintaining a " D " register, under Section 41(*a*) for employing children without certificates, under Section 41(*f*) for not maintaining covers over gin roller pulleys (rule 38*d*) and under Section 43(*c*) for not

extending the height of partition as ordered to comply with Section 20. The manager was convicted and fined as follows :—

Rs. 10 under Section 41(*h*) one case.

Rs. 15 in each of five cases under Section 41(*a*).

Rs. 10 under Section 41(*f*).

Rs. 10 under Section 43(*c*).

The manager of a third ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of fifteen cases. The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 26 and was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of five cases.

The manager of a fourth ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of six cases. The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 23(*b*) and was convicted and fined Rs. 7 in each of six cases. He was also prosecuted under Section 41(*f*) and Section 41(*h*) for breach of Rule 38(*d*) and Section 35 for not maintaining a " D " register respectively and was convicted and fined Rs. 15 under Section 41(*f*) and Rs. 5 under Section 41(*h*).

The manager of a fifth ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in one case and Rs. 15 in each of fourteen cases. The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41(*h*) for breach of Section 35 and was convicted and fined Rs. 10.

WEST KHANDESH

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of six cases. The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 26 and was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of four cases.

NASIK

The manager of a ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of ten cases.

HYDERABAD

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 23(*b*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of seven cases.

The manager of a second ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 23(*b*) and was convicted and fined Rs. 20 in each of six cases.

The manager of a third ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41(*h*) for not maintaining a " D " register and was convicted and fined Rs. 100. The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41(*a*) for breach of Section 23(*a*) and was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of six cases.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th April 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

Gujarat.—The period under review passed away without any rainfall. The standing crops were generally in a satisfactory condition except in places in North Gujarat where their yield is expected to be much below normal. The picking of cotton is nearing completion in many places and the harvesting of rabi crops such as wheat, barley, etc., is in progress almost everywhere in the Division. The crops under irrigation are generally doing well.

Konkan.—The situation in this division is generally the same as reported last time. The standing crops are generally in good condition. Harvesting of rabi crops is in full swing in many places and cutting of sugarcane continues in parts of Kanara district. Preparation of lands for the next season is in progress and rab burning operations have been started.

Deccan and Karnatak.—Excepting a few drops of rainfall during the early part of April in a few places in Belgaum and Bijapur Districts of the Karnatak there has been no rainfall in either of these two divisions. The harvesting and threshing of rabi crops are in full progress almost everywhere, while the crushing of sugarcane continues in the canal and other sugarcane areas. The garden crops are doing well in both the divisions. The cotton picking is coming to an end in some places in the Karnatak. Lands are being prepared for the next season.

Employment Situation in March 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 123 or 84·25 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of March 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 8·11 per cent. as against 7·34 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working during the month, 75 or 93·75 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 9·05 per cent. as compared with 7·72 per cent. during February.

In Ahmedabad 55 mills were working during the month and 38 or 69·09 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 1·83 per cent. as against 1·68 per cent. in February. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

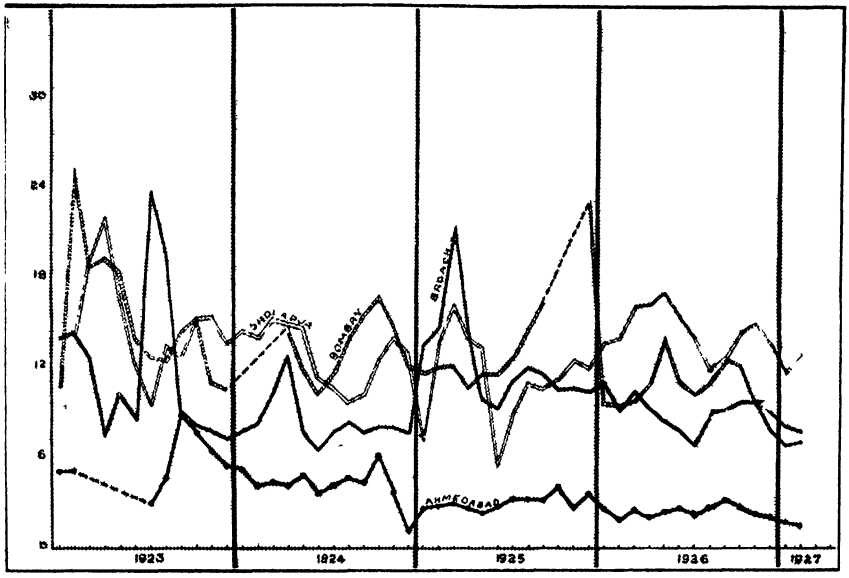
All the mills in Sholapur submitted returns and none of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour. The average percentage absenteeism amounted to 12·91.

One of the two mills in Viramgaum submitted a return and reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average absenteeism amounted to 0·60 per cent.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism was 7·48 per cent. as against 7·08 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 14·50 per cent. as against 12·39 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 16·12 per cent. The avèrage absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 9·50 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 6·80 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Labour Disputes in China

PROPOSED "INDUSTRIAL SERVICE" LEAGUE

The programme of the International Industrial Service League, which is to be established shortly in Shanghai, was adopted at a preliminary meeting on 5th January 1927 at the Union Club, Shanghai.

The objects of the League were stated as follows :

To serve the community through the study and improvement of human relations and conditions in industry. The League has adherence to no national or political party, but it claims to be liberal in its thinking.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

A delightful programme was gone through during the Holi festival and several labourers took part in the entertainments organized by the Union. At the request of the Union the Sanitary Association arranged to show a film entitled ' Slaves of custom ' which was very much appreciated by a big audience of about two thousand workers.

For the last few years workers have been in the habit of being absent from work on the days following Dhuleti and Gokul Ashtami. The Council of Representatives of the Labour Union considered this question and arrived at the conclusion that workers should not absent themselves on the day following Dhuleti but it is absolutely necessary to have a holiday on the day following Gokul Ashtami. Leaflets were accordingly distributed in mills exhorting workers to follow the above decision. Several mills were able as a result of this propaganda to work full day on the day following Dhuleti but some were able to work half day or even less only. It is hoped that in the next few years this decision of the Union will be fully carried out by the workers.

The Joint Council of Representatives of the Frame and Throstle Unions has passed two resolutions to the following effect: (1) ' Not only is the efficiency of workers impaired by the evil practice of bribery for securing service in mills but also the poverty and indebtedness of labourers are increased to a great extent. This Council is of opinion that strict measures should be adopted to remove this serious evil. The Secretary is authorized to request the Millowners' Assciation to open a Labour Exchange under the joint management of the Labour Union and the Millowners' Association.' (2) ' Owing to the great delay involved in the present system of settling disputes workers have to put up with much injustice. They lose confidence and finally unauthorized strikes are the result. It is therefore necessary to appoint a Joint Committee of the Labour Union and the Millowners' Association to dispose of complaints quickly. The Secretary is empowered to take all necessary steps to bring about this end.'

The Labour Union has severely condemned the unauthorized strike in the Gordhan Mill at the beginning of this month.

Propaganda work in connection with explaining the benefits of the Union is conducted in an intense manner and meetings are held for this purpose in different mills almost daily. It is likely that the membership of the Union will show an increase in the next quarter.

It is proposed to publish monthly an " Illustrated Majur Sandesh " containing eight pages and at least two pictures. An annual subscription of annas three will be charged for this special issue.

THE B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

The President of the above Association had requested the Agent of the Railway to discuss with him the grievances of the employees. The Agent would not agree to this. The President thereupon sent a letter to the Agent stating that the employees have refused to join the Staff Councils and have resolved to stand firm by the Association until their grievances are redressed, and also requested to be informed within ten days whether

the Agent was willing to interview him and discuss the complaints or not. The President has further stated that if the Agent refuses to discuss matters the responsibility for whatever the public and the Railway authorities may have to suffer in consequence will rest entirely with the Agent and not the Association.

HIGH MORTALITY IN AHMEDABAD

On 22nd November 1926 the Municipality appointed a Doctors' Committee to report on the high mortality in Ahmedabad. In the course of its report the Committee has remarked on the following lines : ' In many mills in the city the latrines are in a very bad condition. Urinals and latrines are very few in proportion to the number of workers. In all parts of the compounds of mills heaps of rubbish are found lying together and the accumulation of dirty water from the dyeing and bleaching departments forms a fruitful source of disease. It is necessary to consider these matters carefully.'

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during March 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of March 1927. All commissioners in the Presidency furnished information and out of a total number of 43 cases disposed of during the month, 40 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. Two cases which were reported as having been transferred from one Commissioner to another have not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded during the month amounted to Rs. 26,951-10-3 as against Rs. 15,815-13-6 in the previous month and Rs. 14,987-12-5 in March 1926. Out of the 43 cases in which compensation was claimed, 16 were fatal accidents, 23 of permanent partial disablement, 2 of temporary disablement and the remaining two of permanent total disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 17 and in other industries 26. The corresponding figures for March 1926 were 3 and 20.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the 43 cases was 46 of whom 40 were adult males and 2 adult females. The remaining four were under 15 years of age, one being a female and the rest males.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review 24 were original claims and 19 registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in 22 cases, agreements were registered in 19 cases, one case was dismissed and another was allowed to be withdrawn.

Industrial Disputes in India during 1926

The Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour recently published a bulletin containing the statistics of industrial disputes in British India for the year 1926. These statistics show that the total number of disputes reported amounted to 128 as against 134 in the previous year. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 186,811 as against 270,423 in 1925; and the number of working days lost was 1,097,478 as against 12,578,129. The general effects of the disputes (1) by Provinces and (2) by Classes of Establishments are set out in the following two tables :—

General Effects of Disputes—By Provinces

Province	No. of disputes	No. of workpeople involved	No. of working days lost
Bombay	57	25,201	77,390
Bengal	57	141,808	837,978
Madras	2	131	1,335
United Provinces	3	1,310	14,570
Bihar and Orissa	3	5,700	13,600
Central Provinces	4	1,514	17,760
Assam	1	500	1,000
Burma	1	10,647	133,845
Total	128	186,811	1,097,478

General Effects of Disputes—By Classes of Establishments

Class of Establishments	No. of disputes	No. of workpeople involved	No. of working days lost
Cotton Mills	57	22,713	79,027
Jute Mills	33	129,951	769,022
Engineering Works	4	1,224	8,707
Conservancy	13	8,980	25,612
Railway Workshops	3	6,900	10,500
Oil Fields	1	10,647	133,845
Oil Works	1	551	4,685
Printing Works	2	90	570
Tea Estate	1	500	1,000
Coal Fields	1	200	1,600
Miscellaneous	12	5,055	62,910
Total	128	186,811	1,097,478

Nearly 90 per cent. of the total number of disputes occurred in the provinces of Bombay and Bengal. Each of these provinces reported 57

disputes while no other province in India reported more than 4 disputes during the year under review. It will be seen that the number of workpeople affected by the disputes in Bengal was more than five times the number affected by an equal number of disputes in Bombay and the number of working days lost was more than ten times as much. If the statistics are considered according to classes of establishments it is found that the greatest number of disputes occurred in cotton mills. These involved 22,713 operatives and resulted in a time loss of 79,027 working days. Jute mills come next with 33 disputes involving 129,951 workpeople or 69·56 per cent. of the total and a time loss of 769,022 working days which amounts to 70·07 per cent. of the total time loss for British India.

CAUSES OF DISPUTES

Questions of pay were responsible for 60 or nearly 47 per cent. of the total number of disputes. "Personnel" and "Other" causes were responsible for 24 per cent. and 17 per cent. respectively. The two following tables show the causes of disputes (1) by Provinces and (2) by Classes of Establishments :—

Causes of Disputes—By Provinces

Province	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and Hours	Others
Bombay	27	1	22	..	7
Bengal	27	3	8	11	8
Madras	..	..	..	..	2
United Provinces	..	..	..	..	3
Bihar and Orissa	2	..	1	..	..
Central Provinces	3	..	..	..	1
Assam	..	..	..	..	1
Burma	1	..	..	..	..
Total ..	60	4	31	11	22

Causes of Disputes—By Classes of Establishments

Class of Establishments	Pay	Bonus	Personnel	Leave and Hours	Others
Cotton Mills	24	1	22	..	10
Jute Mills	12	3	5	9	4
Engineering Works	2	..	..	1	1
Conservancy	9	..	1	..	3
Railway Workshops ..	1	..	2	..	..
Oil Fields	1	..	..	..	..
Oil Works	1	..	..	..	..
Printing Works	1	..	1	..	..
Tea Estate	..	..	..	..	1
Coal Fields	1	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous..	8	..	..	1	3
Total ..	60	4	31	11	22

Over 47 per cent. of the disputes in each of the provinces of Bombay and Bengal arose over questions of pay. Disputes due to "Personnel" causes were most frequent in Bombay while those caused by questions relating to "Leave and Hours" were reported only by Bengal. If the figures are considered by groups of establishments, it is found that disputes in Cotton Mills were very often due to questions of wages and demands for dismissal or reinstatement of particular individuals. In Jute Mills the predominant causes were those connected with questions of wages and leave and hours of work. Disputes regarding bonus were only confined to Cotton and Jute Mills.

RESULTS OF DISPUTES

Only 12 or 9·4 per cent. of the disputes resulted entirely in favour of the workers. A similar number of disputes resulted in partial success. The remaining 104 or 81·2 per cent. of the total number of disputes were unsuccessful. The results of the disputes are summarised in the following two tables according to Provinces and Classes of Establishments :—

Results of Disputes—By Provinces

Province	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
Bombay	5	5	47
Bengal	6	7	44
Madras	..	..	2
United Provinces	1	..	2
Bihar and Orissa	..	..	3
Central Provinces	..	..	4
Assam	..	..	1
Burma	..	..	1
Total ..	12	12	104

Results of Disputes—By Classes of Establishments

Class of Establishments	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
Cotton Mills	5	6	46
Jute Mills	2	3	28
Engineering Works	2	..	2
Conservancy	2	1	10
Railway Workshops	1	..	2
Oil Fields	..	..	1
Oil Works	..	..	1
Printing Works	..	..	2
Tea Estate	..	..	1
Coal Fields	..	..	1
Miscellaneous	..	2	10
Total ..	12	12	104

SUMMARY OF DISPUTES ACCORDING TO MONTHS

The progress and the general effects of the disputes according to months are given in the following table :—

Progress and Effects of Disputes according to Months

Months	No of disputes in progress at beginning	No. of fresh disputes begun	No. of disputes ended	No. of disputes in progress at end	No. of work-people involved	No. of working days lost
January ..	1	6	7	..	1,105	5,375
February ..	..	12	11	1	40,293	246,562
March ..	1	15	15	1	10,407	67,889
April ..	1	13	13	1	43,438	302,011
May ..	1	14	12	3	20,765	52,811
June ..	3	12	12	3	10,926	33,132
July ..	3	6	9	..	9,609	80,520
August ..	..	14	14	..	13,042	45,399
September ..	..	6	5	1	2,624	8,858
October ..	1	10	11	..	9,570	25,558
November ..	..	10	8	2	29,670	170,774
December ..	2	9	11	..	16,692	58,589
Year ..	1	127	128	..	186,811	1,097,478

The following table shows the results of the disputes according to months:—

Results of Disputes according to Months

Months	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful
January	1	1	5
February	2	1	8
March	1	3	11
April	..	1	12
May	1	..	11
June	..	..	12
July	..	..	9
August	1	2	11
September	1	..	4
October	2	..	9
November	1	2	5
December	2	2	7
Year ..	12	12	104

During the year under review, there was, on the whole less industrial strife in India than in any recent year. The number of strikes recorded was 128 which is less than that of any year since 1920, when the collection of these statistics commenced. The total number of working days lost through strikes and lockouts was approximately 11 lakhs against an average of 74 lakhs per year in the preceding five years.

Conditions of Work in Italy

A "LABOUR CHARTER"

The Fascist Grand Council in Italy, at its January Session, approved the following resolution submitted by Mr. Bottai, Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Corporations:

The Fascist Grand Council,

Reaffirming categorically the right of the State to dictate the rules which should govern national production and labour according to the principles of the new order, and the bases of which are contained in the legislation relating to the regulation of collective relations in industry; and

Bearing in mind the duties allotted to the Ministry of Corporations — the instrument of radical change — and to the central corporate bodies which will shortly be constituted;

Accepts the idea of a "Labour Charter," and decides to submit it to examination, keeping in view the following test principles:—

(1) That there should be solidarity among the various elements of production, in the supreme interests of the nation;

(2) That there should be a complete co-ordination of the laws for the welfare and relief of the workers;

(3) That there should be a co-ordination and overhauling of the laws for the protection of labour; and

(4) That general rules should be established for labour contracts.

Mr. Mussolini himself, in the capacity of Minister of Corporations, was entrusted with the task of drafting the "Charter," in agreement with the Ministers concerned and with the General Secretary of the Fascist Party.

It is intended to publish the text of the "Charter" on 21st April next, the anniversary of the foundation of Rome and the National Labour Day.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS: MR. ROSSONI'S VIEWS

Mr. Rossoni, President of the Confederation of Fascist Trade Unions, has given in two articles published in *Lavoro d'Italia* his views on points (1) and (4) of the above resolution; the parts relating to the unification and improvement of existing social legislation are, he says, less open to discussion.

Labour contracts (he contends) should so far as possible be uniform for all classes and areas; the limitations and exceptions should depend solely on the requirements of a given industry or locality, or on individual fitness and capacity to produce.

In every contract there should be a preamble referring to the general conditions governing the relations between the employers and workers, according to Italian industrial organisation, and affirming the principle of mutual recognition by the contracting parties in their representative capacities.

Recruitment

The taking on of workers should be effected through employment offices set up in each Province by the provincial organisations of the Confederation of Fascist Trade Unions. These offices should be divided into district branches, which in turn should be divided into sub-sections for different

classes of industries or workers. The branches should be under the direction of committees composed of representatives of employers and of workers.

Registers should be compiled for each class, containing information as to the character and capacity of each person entered. Employers should have the right to choose from among those entered for each class.

Sanctions

The standard contract should contain provisions for three kinds of disciplinary sanction :—

(1) Fines rising to the equivalent of six hours' earnings ;
(2) Suspension for a period not exceeding three days ;
(3) Dismissal.

Sums collected as fines should be paid into the mutual sickness fund of the establishment concerned, or, failing such a fund, to some similar institution.

Hours of Work

The principle of the eight-hour day should be clearly affirmed, subject to the exceptions authorised by law. Overtime should not exceed on the average two hours a day, and should be paid for at a rate at least 10 per cent. above the regular rate.

In works engaged in continuous processes, an increased wage-rate should be fixed for the third shift.

Probation

The probation period for a worker should be fixed. During this period, each side should have the right to terminate the engagement, the worker being entitled to wages corresponding to the actual period of his service. The grading of the worker at the end of the probation period should be made by agreement between the employer and the worker, and the wage-rate assigned to the grade in which the worker is placed should be paid to him retrospectively as from his entry into the employer's service.

Wages

Minimum wages should be fixed for each class of worker, on the basis of the following factors : Ability of the establishment to pay, cost of living, market conditions and locality of the establishment.

The actual earnings of each worker should be determined by agreement, on the basis of the quality and quantity of his individual output.

The principle of a quarterly revision of wages according to the index number of the cost of living in the district should be adopted, on the demand of either of the contracting parties ; the standard contract should indicate the means of giving effect to this principle.

The principle of periodical increments (at intervals not exceeding two years), according to merit and seniority , should also be adopted.

The rate of payment for piecework should be fixed on the basis of the hourly wage, in such a way as to make it possible to earn one-third more.

Revision of piece-rates should be permitted when at least nine-tenths of those concerned do not succeed in earning the amount fixed as the basic sum, or when their earnings exceed that sum by more than one-third.

Holidays

Holidays should be fixed at six days a year after one year's unbroken service. The standard contract should lay down other provisions relating to holidays, such as provisions for the exclusion, in calculating them, of public holidays and days of unjustified absence from work which has already been penalised, and provisions for the prohibition of the substitution for holidays of a money payment.

Sickness

In case of the illness of a worker, the employer should be compelled to retain him in employment for a prescribed period. The employer should be required to pay to the worker his full wage for a certain number of days, and half-wages for a further period, except where there is a sick fund which ensures to the worker at least equal benefits.

The contracting parties should undertake to establish, unless they have already done so, a mutual sickness fund, based on equal contributions from the employer and the worker, such fund to be administered by the representatives of the organisations which conclude the contract.

Military Service

A call to the colours should be a ground for the cancellation of the contract, but the indemnity prescribed for discharge under normal conditions should be paid in such cases. On his return, the worker should have a right of priority over other applicants when his former employer is engaging workers. In case of recall either to the regular army or to the national defence volunteer force, the worker should have a right to re-employment on his return, and the period spent in military service should be counted as time spent in employment for the purpose of reckoning seniority.

Notice of Discharge

In case of discharge for reasons other than those of discipline, a term of notice should be obligatory, or an indemnity should be paid in lieu of notice. This indemnity should be at least two days' pay for each year of service.

Preservation of Rights

If an undertaking changes hands or is altered in any way, the workers should retain their rights in full.

Disputes

The contracting organisations should enter into negotiations, through their direct representatives, with the management of the undertaking, in order, if possible, to find a solution for all differences, whether of a collective or an individual character, relating to the interpretation and application of the contract. The representatives should submit their conclusions to their respective organisations, and recourse should be had to the Industrial Courts ("Labour Magistracy") only in the event of failure by the trade unions to settle the dispute. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, January 31, 1927.*)

The "Labour Charter" in Italy

A MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

The first meeting for the preparation of the proposed Italian "Labour Charter" was held on 13th February 1927 at the Ministry of Corporations. under the Chairmanship of Mr. Bottai, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Corporations.

There were present the General Secretary of the Fascist Party, the Presidents of the National Federation of Fascist Trade Unions, of the Free Fascist Federation of Workers and Salaried Employees in Maritime and Aerial Transport, and of the six Federations of Employers, together with representatives of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of National Economy.

Guiding Principles

Mr. Bottai read a communication embodying the guiding principles laid down for the work of the Committee by the Head of the Government.

The fundamental principles of corporate organisation are summed up in this communication as follows :—

(1) The establishment of that equality of rights among social classes which liberal and democratic systems have never been able to secure, and the proclamation of solidarity between all citizens in support of the paramount interests of the country, which thus become the limiting factor and the criterion of all individual rights, whether those of property and profit or those of labour and wages ;

(2) The promotion of the occupational association (*i.e.*, the trade union) to the dignity of a public institution with the power of regulating the interests of the particular class of persons whom it represents, and endowed with social duties which make it an instrument of national economic and educational policy. In this the principle to be followed may be summarised in the slogan "All power for the State ; no power against the State ;"

(3) The responsibility of members of associations to their associations for the strict observance of all rules governing labour and production ;

(4) The responsibility of trade unions to the State for discipline among the occupational classes of which they are the organs, the controllers and the representatives ; trade unions to be required to maintain such discipline among their members, if necessary by the revision of their constitutions ;

(5) Collaboration between the trade unions and the Ministry of Corporations, which is the instrument of the political and social restoration of Italy ; such collaboration to secure for the State the effective direction of the social forces of the nation and to obtain the maximum amount of cohesion and discipline among all Italians, both in the social and in the economic sphere.

Under the Fascist system, which is a complete whole (continued the communication), the declaration of rights and duties refers either to citizens taken individually or to associations which group citizens in the corporate organisation, and constitute the fundamental elements of the system itself.

The first consequence of the above general principles is that the Fascist system stands out as the first which has allowed workers to take part in

the regulation of production through the medium of the central corporate organisations ; that is to say, to take part in controlling the whole national economic system, not in controlling any given undertaking, which was the claim of anarchist trade unionism. Such control is at one and the same time the worker's right and the worker's duty, since it requires him to subordinate his personal claims to the efficiency of the national economy.

Further (added the communication), within the limits of these rights and duties, *i.e.*, within the limits of the corporate Fascist State, a new economic constitution may be seen forming, the exact details of which cannot yet be defined, but traces of which are already to be found in the influence of the collective labour agreement and in the work of co-ordinating production which will be carried out by the trade unions and the corporations.

Questionnaire Adopted

After discussion, in which all those present took part, a questionnaire was drawn up which is to be considered at future meetings, and on which the Ministries and Federations concerned will base their reports.

The questionnaire deals with the following points :

(1) Co-ordination and definition of the work to be done by the trade unions, the national institutes and the Ministry of Corporations in the field of social welfare and occupational education ;

(2) Extension of social insurance ; work which may be done by the trade unions in this field ; unification of insurance ; possible reform of the system of industrial accident insurance ;

(3) Co-ordination and revision of legislation for the protection of labour ;

(4) Procedure for drawing up collective labour agreements ; scope of such agreements and general conditions of labour ;

(5) General provisions of the labour agreement (*i.e.*, period of probation, dismissal, holidays, hours of work, etc.) ; limits of State intervention in view of the new system of collective labour agreements ;

(6) Organisation of a judicial system to deal with individual labour disputes, taking account of the general rules concerning the labour agreement and of the sovereign right of the State to assume the legal guardianship of its citizens ;

(7) Relations of the co-operative societies with the State and with the Fascist trade union organisation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 7, 1927.*)

Forty-four Hour Week

ARBITRATION COURT'S DECISION—EMPLOYERS PERTURBED

The Federal Arbitration Court gave its decision last week on the claim by the Amalgamated Engineering Union for a shorter working week, and fixed the hours of employment at 44 per week. This was a test case, and the judgment will affect industries throughout Australia, establishing a standard working week for industrial activities which are similar in their conditions regarding leisure, or want of leisure, ot the engineering trade. It does not, however, apply to other industries. The judges were not unanimous in their decision. Chief Judge Dethridge and Judge Beeby

favoured fixing the hours at 44 a week, but Judge Lukin expressed vigorous opposition to the reduction, contending that the reduction of standard hours, involving as it must a substantial diminution of output would have a serious effect upon the economic welfare of the country.

It is impossible to estimate the ultimate effect of the decision on industry as a whole. According to evidence tendered during the hearing of the case it was calculated that any change would involve half a million workers, and cost the community £10,000,000 a year at least, with a still further continuously increasing amount when there was an increase in the number of persons employed for 44 hours who would otherwise be engaged for 48 hours. Immediately the change is stated by the Commonwealth Statistician to affect 75,000 workers, and assuming that the output decreased *pr rata* with the hours, he puts the cost at £1,625,000 per annum.

Manufacturers and commercial men expressed dismay at the curtailment of production which must inevitably result from the reduction in working hours, but a more hopeful view was taken of the situation following a statement by Chief Judge Dethridge on 25th February 1927, during the hearing of a claim by the Australian Glass Workers' Union for increased wages and better working conditions. His Honour declared that the 44-hour week was only possible in an industry if the workers in every way worked up to their limit, and pulled up to the collar all the time. No Court, no Parliament, and no power on earth could get the 44 hours for them if they did not work their best. It meant that payment by results would have to be recognised as a legitimate thing. It did not matter about union rules; payment by results must come, if not the 44 hours would have to go.

Employers, are unanimous that only by the wider adoption of piece work can the country maintain a 44-hour week. The overseas manufacturer produces cheaply, and if Australian industry is to meet his competition it is essential that production costs here should be reduced. However, for some obscure reason labour leaders are opposed to piecework, although some thousands of employees are working amicably under this system, and refuse to discard it in favour of a set maximum weekly wage. It may be presumed that a determined effort will be made by manufacturers to secure greater production by the introduction of piecework in their industries, and it will be interesting to note the effect of Chief Judge Dethridge's statement on further applications for a shorter working week which are expected from the employees of all activities which come under the category of normal industries, that is, those occupations involving unusual strain or fatigue, or more than the usual dirt and grime.

A Serious Position

Following a special meeting of the council of the Victorian Chamber of Manufacturers on Monday the 28th February 1927, the following statement was made on behalf of the chamber by the president, Mr. P. Lewis :—

" So far-reaching may become the majority decision of the Full Arbitration Court to apply a working week of 44 hours to normal industries that manufacturers are considerably perturbed as to the future conduct of their businesses. For many years, men with enterprise have been struggling to build up productive works that might fulfil the national requirements.

With the aid of the tariff some have achieved a measure of success ; others have no more than a fair living ; while others again have failed. It has to be admitted that progress has been very slow and uncertain. According to Judge Beeby, not more than 30 per cent. of engineering work in Australia appears to be subject to overseas competition. He indicated that the remaining 70 per cent. consisted of either repairs or renewals, or of manufacturing which was not menaced. Now, if only 30 per cent. of the trade in the engineering industry in the Commonwealth is governed by competition abroad, why is this so ? How is it that we are not manufacturers to a larger extent than is the case ? What is the reason that the value of imports is so great and is expanding to an alarming extent ? This is shown by the fact that they now reach the tremendous amount of £150,000,000 a year. Metals and machinery account for £45,000,000 having risen to this figure from £25,000,000 in 1921-22. It is also indicated by the loss of extensive contracts to overseas firms during the last few years—work which could, and should have been performed here. The fact is that, notwithstanding the protection afforded by the customs tariff, our production costs were too high. Now they are to be increased. For what reason ? To enable employees whom the court freely admits are suffering no physical hardship from working 48 hours a week, but may be engaged in processes that require particular concentration of mind and actions or are monotonous to have more leisure. It would be assumed that if disabilities were experienced through monotonous work or extra concentration of mind, daily leisure would be sought. The fact is that where 44 hours have been obtained, the demand of the employees has been generally to limit work to five days, making the daily stretch eight hours 48 minutes.

" If manufacturers in Australia do not adequately fulfil national needs, what is the reason ? In regard to the engineering industry, the advocate for that union at one stage of the proceedings in court reflected on the efficiency of the plant used. On the testimony of the three judges, our manufacturing plants are efficient. Moreover, it was not proved that profits were unreasonable. Well, what is wrong that we cannot get a greater share of the manufacturing work that is needed by the community ? The answer plainly is that our costs of production are far too high. Were the 44-hour week introduced in the working of the railways in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia, and the tramways in New South Wales at the present time, it would mean that the people would have to bear a burden of nearly £2,000,000. No account is taken of the costs that would be involved in respect of other public utilities in the States mentioned.

" Plainly, the decrease of four hours in a week's work is an industry tax. This is undeniable—in effect, the judgments of the three members of the court confirm such a statement. No other country in the world has such repressive measures against the maintenance and development of industry as those to which Australian manufacturers are subjected. According to the Tariff Board, which is composed of men with special knowledge of industrial and commercial life, the general position is critical.

" The hope was expressed by the court that with the granting of 44 hours in particular industries discontent will be cured and production

consequently be increased. Manufacturers would be delighted if such a result followed the reduction of working hours. But experience does not give any support to such a hope. Can machines that are now run on top speed be run any faster? Payment by results is the most likely method of achieving increased output from factories; but trades unions are opposed to such a system, though it does operate to some extent. Will they, in the circumstances, consent to acknowledge such a method of work? And will the court encourage the manufacturers to obtain increased production and lower operating costs.

"Looking at the whole matter, we are compelled to the conclusion of Judge Lukin that the reduction of the standard hours will spell retrogression, or, at the best, stagnation, and not progression. Even the assenting judges, as has been pointed out in press criticisms, share the doubts of citizens generally as to the wisdom of making any change in standard working hours at this juncture. Their judgments are wholly speculative on a matter that is of vital interest to the whole community. Manufacturers will naturally do their best where reduced hours are enforced. All the same, they feel that the efforts which they are making to meet national needs and be independent of outsiders, receive scanty encouragement in the Arbitration Court." (*From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Melbourne, March 3, 1927.*)

Technical Education in Germany

The *Borsig Zeitung* recently published an article by Mr. Karl Reich analysing and commenting on the results of an enquiry made among employees and shop foremen in the Borsig works in Berlin, to discover whether the modern methods of training applied to apprentices have resulted in an increase in their efficiency, or whether the old methods of training skilled workers should be preferred.

The enquiry brought out two points: (1) The influence of gymnastics and sports on the apprentice; and (2) the advantages and disadvantages of theoretical education.

Mr. Reich draws from the results of the enquiry the conclusion that gymnastics and sports, properly organised and reasonably undertaken, do undoubtedly exercise an excellent influence on the development of the apprentice.

Theoretical education, he proceeds, is becoming ever more necessary in view of the evolution of the several crafts and of industry as a whole. What appears to be most necessary is a close collaboration between the occupational school and the workshop.

If the apprentice is to be kept in touch with modern practice, he must be trained from the outset to work under conditions less easy than those which he normally finds in the occupational school, though at the same time he must be given all the technical education necessary for the proper exercise of his craft. The danger of a training carried out exclusively in a model school is that it may accustom young persons to work under ideal conditions, and thus make it hard for them to adapt themselves subsequently to work under actual factory conditions.

Moral factors should also be taken into serious consideration in the training of apprentices, having regard to the tendency which is frequently noticeable among young persons now-a-days to claim an undue degree of freedom from control. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 7, 1927.*)

Hours of Work in the United States

THE FIVE-DAY WEEK

In view of the discussion recently aroused by the decision of Mr. Henry Ford to institute the five-day week in his enterprises, it may be of interest to note the extent to which the five-day week is at present in operation as a regular working practice in the United States.

Some light is thrown on this subject by an article published in the December 1926 number of the *Monthly Labor Review*, Washington, based on enquiries made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and on information obtained from various other sources.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, it is explained, makes an annual survey of wage rates and hours among wage-earners in various industrial communities. The study is limited to trades in which payment is by time rates, or, if by piece-rates, by some simple measure such as " ems " in the case of printers.

The 1926 survey covered 66 cities and 824,313 trade union members, for 764,596 of whom regular working hours were ascertainable. The trades covered were: Bakery, building, chauffeurs, teamsters and drivers, granite and stone, laundry workers, linemen, longshoremen, printing and publishing—book and job, and newspaper.

Of this total of 764,596 workers,

35,689, or 4·7 per cent. had a working week of five days throughout the year;

3,670, or 0·5 per cent. had a working week of five days for a part of the year; and

1,063, or 0·2 per cent. had a working week of six days but not over forty hours.

Thus, in the aggregate, there were 40,422 workers, or 5·3 per cent., who worked five days or forty hours or less for the whole or a part of the year.

Clothing Trades

Of the larger industries, that in which the regular full-time five-day week is most prevalent is the manufacture of men's clothing, in which 45 per cent. of the establishments and almost one-third of the workers covered by a recent enquiry of the Bureau were working a five-day week. The forty-hour week, however, was not common, the average hours being 44·3 per week.

Under recent agreements, most of the furworkers (an industry employing about 14,000 persons) are working on a five-day forty-hour week basis, but with provision for some Saturday work during the busy autumn season.

The organised workers in the cloth, hat and cap industry in New York and Philadelphia have agreements providing for a five-day forty-four-hour week, to be reduced to a forty-hour week in 1927.

The organised workers in the following branches of the clothing industry have a five-day week, and in most cases a forty-hour week: cloak, skirt and dress makers, Boston; waterproof garment workers, cutters, pressers and buttonhole makers, New York; cloak, skirt, dress and reefer makers, New York; ladies' tailors and custom dressmakers, New York.

Building Trades

More than 6 per cent. of the union members in the building trades covered by the Bureau's 1926 study—mainly, lathers, painters and plasterers—have a five-day week, and it is not infrequent among the granite and stone trades for part of the year.

Printing Trades

About 5 per cent. of all the newspaper printing trades covered by the 1926 study worked not more than forty hours a week, but variously in five or six days.

In the book and job branch of the printing industry, the five-day forty-hour week was found to occur only in a few cities.

Bakeries and Laundries

1·4 per cent. of the bakers covered by the study, and 7·8 per cent. of the laundry workers, have the five-day week.

Paper Box-board Industry

A study made by the Bureau early in 1925 showed that in 60 per cent. of the paper box-board establishments, employing about two-thirds of the total working force covered, the productive forces were working on a regular five-day week basis.

Foundries and Machine Shops

In foundries and machine shops, according to a 1925 enquiry, 3·8 per cent. of the plants, employing 3·5 per cent. of the workers covered by the enquiry, had a regular five-day week.

Iron and Steel Industry

The iron and steel industry as a whole still has many workers on rather long hours, but the five-day week exists in certain occupations in certain plants. A survey by the Bureau in 1926 showed that 2·1 per cent. of all the workers covered worked a regular five-day or five-night week. Most of these were in the bar mills (13 per cent. of the total workers therein) and in the puddling mills (6 per cent. of the total workers therein).

Other Occupations

In addition to the adoption of the five-day week as a regular practice in certain industrial establishments, there has been of recent years a significant extension of the practice of Saturday closing in the Summer

months. The practice is most extensive in retail stores and offices, but is known to exist also in other lines of business, although no very satisfactory data are available on this subject. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 14, 1927.*)

Quebec Employers' Insurance Organization

The Workmen's Compensation Act of the province of Quebec enacted in 1926, which becomes effective on 1st April, requires employers to guarantee the payment of compensation to their injured workmen either by means of insurance, or by depositing with the Provincial government cash bonds sufficient to answer for their solvency. Manufacturers desiring to insure themselves in accordance with this provision found that advances had been made by insurance companies in casualty insurance premiums. They decided therefore to organize their own mutual insurance company. This action was taken at a joint meeting of the Quebec division and Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association held at Montreal on 17th January, when it was decided to apply for a mutual insurance company charter. The members of the provincial cabinet later heard the argument of the manufacturers and also of the underwriters. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, February 1927.*)

Wages and Prices in Japan

Both the wholesale and retail prices of commodities have fallen in Japan since 1925, and are still showing signs of a further decline. The effect on wages is shown below:

The index numbers of wholesale and retail prices, published by the Bank of Japan (*Nippon Ginko*), and those of wages, published by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, are given in the following table:—

	Index of Wholesale prices	Index of retail prices	Index of wages
1923 August	100·00	100·00	100·00
1924 January	110·77	103·73	105·19
1924 June	104·81	99·87	104·56
1925 January	112·26	106·37	101·52
1925 June	105·00	98·80	97·41
1926 January	100·95	97·50	97·05
1926 June	93·21	92·21	94·10
1926 November	90·08	87·99	98·75

The fall in wholesale prices since 1925, as shown in the table, is regarded as attributable to the recovery of the Japanese currency in the foreign market. The fall in retail prices is considered to be due largely to the decrease of the purchasing power of the nation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 14, 1927.*)

Membership of German Trade Unions

The *Reichsarbeitsblatt* of 1st January 1927 contained a survey of the situation of the German trade unions in 1925, based on the Trade Union Year Book recently issued.

At the end of 1925 the German trade unions comprised 5,212,797 members, divided as follows :—

—	Men	Women	Percentage
"Free" trade unions (*Allgemeiner Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund*)	4,182,511	720,825	69·9
Christian unions (*Gesamtverband der christlichen Gewerkschaften Deutschlands*)	582,319	148,736	15·1
Liberal (Hirsch-Dunker) unions (*Verband der deutschen Gewerk-Vereine*)	157,571	12,061	7·2
Miscellaneous			7·8

No regular figures are available for the "anarchic-syndicalist" and Communist unions. At the Fifteenth Congress of the Anarchic-Syndicalist Union (*Freie Arbeiter-Union Deutschlands*), which was held from 10th to 13th April 1925, the number of members was calculated at 21,000.

Among the unions having communist leanings may be mentioned the Union of Workers in the Clothing Trade (5,000 members), the Union of Building Workers (20,000 members), the Union of Workers in the Printing and Allied Trades (1,000 members) and the Union of Ships' Carpenters (486 members). These four unions have formed a Federation of Independent Revolutionary Unions (*Reichskonferenz der selbstandigen revolutionaren Verbande*). In addition to this Federation, there are, in this group the Industrial Union (formerly the Union of Manual and Intellectual Workers) with 16,100 members, and a Union of Transport Workers which has 63,586 members.

The chief association of non-partisan workers is the Federation of German Workers, which has 187,720 members.

There are also one or two sectarian associations, such as the Association of Catholic Domestic Servants (Munich, 6,589 members), the Association of Catholic Women Workers and Domestic Servants (Berlin, 18,000 members) and the Nurses' Association (23,389 members). (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 14, 1927.*)

Trade Union Membership in Switzerland

The *Revue Syndicale Suisse*, the organ of the Swiss Federation of Trade Unions, gave in its number of December 1926 a statistical survey of the present proportion of trade unionists in Switzerland to the total number of workers in the country who could be organised, as ascertained by an enquiry made in 1919.

The following table shows the general result of the comparison :—

Industry	Possible trade unionists (1919 figures)	Trade unionists	
		Number	Percentage
Food and drink trades, tobacco, etc.	42,931	5,790	13·49
Clothing and leather industries	54,397	2,688	4·94
Wood and building trades	112,320	17,468	15·55
Textile industry and chemical industry ..	119,736	11,520	9·62
Printing and allied trades	16,224	6,713	41·38
Metal work and clock-making	154,940	43,993	28·39
Public administration, etc.	43,931	8,330	18·96
Transport and communication	80,757	46,105	57·09
Miscellaneous	7,992	1,081	23·33
Total ..	633,228	143,688	22·69

(*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 14, 1927.*)

Apprenticeship in China

Most Peking factories employ apprentices who learn their trade in three or more years. They are all young boys who have no chance to go to school, but have to be satisfied with the "rule of thumb" training that these factories offer.

To give them some school education, the Boys' Department of the Peking Y. M. C. A. is holding classes in two rug factories, Yenching and Lin Chu.

These classes are for three years. The apprentices are taught reading, writing and arithmetic in the first year ; simple letter writing, geography, drawing and more arithmetic in the second ; and book-keeping and sociology in the third, when geography, arithmetic and drawing lessons are also continued. The aim is to fit apprentices to be better workmen. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 7, 1927.*)

Cost of Living in Italy

GOVERNMENT ACTION

The Italian Government, having considered the proposals submitted by the Superior National Economic Council for bringing about a reduction in the cost of living, has decided to take the following measures :

(1) All persons engaged or intending to engage in trading are to be required to obtain a special licence from the municipal authority, and to deposit a security of between 500 and 5,000 *lire* according to the volume of trade done ;

(2) The issue of the licence is to be dependent on the advice of a committee composed of the *podestat* (the chief municipal official, appointed by the Government), two representatives of the traders' associations and two representatives of the workers' associations. The licence may be withheld if the applicant does not furnish adequate guarantees as to character and financial standing or if the committee is of opinion that the number of shops engaged in the branch of trade in question is in excess of public requirements ;

(3) The municipal authorities are to be empowered, at their discretion and by agreement with the provincial economic councils and the associations concerned, to fix the retail prices of the principal foodstuffs. Traders dealing in foodstuffs are to be required to post in their shop-windows both the wholesale and the retail prices, even when the retail prices have been fixed by the municipal authority.

(4) In the event of refusal to grant a licence, the trader concerned may appeal to the provincial administration control committee (*Giunta provinciale amministrativa*). A licence may be revoked on various grounds; for example, if the trader conceals or destroys goods, or sells at prices higher than those fixed by the municipal authority or at prices which are excessive in the opinion of the committee, or if he is found guilty three times in succession of an offence against the provisions in force against fraudulent trading, selling under weight, and adulteration of food, etc.

The above measures were promulgated by a Legislative Decree dated 16th December 1926 and a Ministerial Decree dated 31st December 1926.

The Minister of National Economy has given supplementary instructions, to prefects by two circulars, in which he explains among other things, that these Decrees are intended to be of general application; chemists, hotel-keepers who conduct restaurant business, restaurant-keepers, opticians, watchmakers, goldsmiths, photographers, dealers in electrical and hydraulic appliances, tailors, etc., are subject to their provisions, in so far as they do not confine themselves to the exercise of a craft but engage in the sale of goods. Similarly, hairdressers are subject to these provisions, in so far as they sell articles of toilet. Persons engaged only in production, and wholesale dealers who do not sell direct to the public, are exempt.

A trader must apply for as many licences and deposit as many securities as he has shops. The amount of the security is to be fixed according to the amount of income-tax payable but there will be no exemption from the obligation to deposit the security when the income of the trader concerned is below the income-tax exemption limit.

The Decrees do not apply to holders of concessions for dealing in goods which are the subject of a public monopoly, to dealers in cinematographic requisites, or to exporters and importers who have no retail shops. They do apply, however, to co-operative retail establishments and kindred undertakings, and to landowners and farmers who sell their agricultural produce in shops open to the public.

The Cabinet gave further consideration to the question of the cost of living at its meeting on 9th February 1927.

It was observed that, while the index number for wholesale prices had fallen by 90 points since last September, only a very slight drop was noticeable in retail prices.

The Ministers of National Economy, Corporations, and the Interior were requested to re-examine the position, and authority was given to the Ministers of Finance and National Economy to take all necessary steps for the enforcement of the Decree of 16th December 1926, with a view to remedying this situation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 21, 1927.*)

Handbook of American Trade Unions

A " Handbook of American Trade Unions " has been published lately by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, United States Department of Labour, containing lists of all the important labour organizations functioning in June, 1926, with details on the following subjects: the relation of the organization to the American Federation of Labour; a brief account of its origin and history; jurisdiction, both trade and territorial; form of government; qualifications for membership; apprentice system (as intended by the organization and provided for in its constitution); method of negotiating agreements; benefits paid; official organ; location of headquarters; extent of organisation; and total membership.

One hundred and fifty-six organizations are included in the handbook. Of these 107 are affiliated to the American Federation of Labour. Many of those outside the Federation have never been identified with it, among them being most of the railroad organizations, including the " Big four " brotherhoods, and practically all of the organizations in the United States Post Office. The purely craft or industrial organizations outside the American Federation of Labour have been formed chiefly as the result of secession from the American Federation of Labour unions, and are sometimes described as " duel " or " outlaw " unions. They are found principally in the clothing, textile, and shoe industries.

The total membership of the international organizations affiliated to the American Federation of Labour, as shown in their reports to the Bureau of Labour Statistics, is 3,333,597. This, together with 50,400 additional in directly affiliated local unions, gives the American Federation of Labour a total membership of 3,383,997. Membership of organizations outside the Federation, including the Industrial Workers of the World, is 1,059,526. (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, February 1927.*)

The Elimination of Unnecessary Fatigue in Industry

The International Association for the Study and Improvement of Human Relations and Conditions in Industry (Secretariat Headquarters Goethestrasse 10, Zurich) has organized a Summer School on the " Elimination of Unnecessary Fatigue in Industry " to take place this year at the Italian Lakes (Baveno, Hotel Bellevue) from June 19th—25th.

The Summer School has been arranged in conjunction with the yearly Meeting of the Council and is thrown open to all Members of the Association.

The interest and value of this gathering may be estimated from the fact that the Association at present includes members from 22 different countries, membership being open to the following groups connected with Industry :—Directors, Engineers, Personnel (Welfare) Workers, Managers, Forepeople, General Employees, Trade Union Officials, Factory Inspectors, Members of Industrial Boards and Councils, Industrial Research Workers, Educationalists, and Industrial Social Workers generally.

The distinguishing feature of the Association from all other international industrial bodies of a progressive nature being the inclusion of all sections of the industrial community in individual and voluntary membership, the Association is particularly free to enter into the field of industrial research of which the subject for study at the forthcoming Summer School furnishes an example.

The programme of lectures indicates an illuminating treatment of this important subject, as may be seen from the following selection of titles :— " Work and Temperament," " Work and Self-expression," " Different Industries and Different Fatigues," " The Length of the Working Day and Rest Periods," " Consideration of the Influence of Indirect Causes of Fatigue arising from the whole Twenty-four Hour Situation," " The Elimination of Eye-Fatigue," " The Elimination of Ear-Fatigue," " The Influence of Posture on the Elimination of Fatigue," " The Elimination of Fatigue caused by Extremes of Temperature, Dust, Damp, Vibration, etc."

The Chairman of the School is Mrs. Lillian M. Gilbreth, Ph.D., Consulting Engineer, Montclair N. J., United States of America, wife and collaborator of the late Frank B. Gilbreth, distinguished in the whole field of industrial management, particularly on the subject of motion study and fatigue. Miss M. L. Fledderus, Consultant on Industrial Relations, Honorary Secretary of the Association, is acting as Secretary of the School, and Dr. A. Correggiari, Organisateur d'Oeuvres Sociales, Milan, is acting as Host.

Among the lecturers are Professor T. H. Pear, M.A., B.Sc., Professor of Psychology, University of Manchester; Dr. L. Carozzi, Chief of Industrial Health Service, International Labour Office, Geneva; Dr. Phil. Otto Lipmann, Direktor des Instituts fur angewandte Psychologie in Berlin; Comm. Prof. G. Loriga, Medecin en chef du Service d'inspection des Usines, Rome.

The languages used will be English, French and German.

The formal part of the programme has been confined to the mornings, the rest of the day being left free for the organization of discussion circles, where desired, and for the many beautiful excursions available from the meeting place. Visits to factories are also included in the programme, both during the time of the School and in the days immediately following.

" Educated Idlers " in Japan

The scarcity of employment for intellectual workers seems to be attracting widespread attention in Japan.

According to statements in the press, 20 per cent. of the graduates of higher technical schools, technical colleges and universities failed to find work of any kind in 1922; 24 per cent. in 1923; 25 per cent. in 1924; 26 per cent. in 1925; and, so far as can be estimated, a still higher percentage in 1926. This increase in what the newspapers call " educated idlers " constitutes a serious problem.

The Social Affairs Department of the City of Tokyo, which investigated the state of employment among the educated classes last Summer, obtained the following results :—

Graduates of	Total covered by enquiry	Demands registered	Employment found
Secondary technical schools	4,870	2,715	3,029
Technical colleges	5,583	3,660	3,610
Universities	3,638	1,220	2,233
Total ..	14,091	7,595	8,872

Most of the graduates found employment in offices (including government and municipal departments), banks and the teaching profession.

The initial monthly salaries received ranged from 34 or 35 *yen* to 50 *yen* for graduates of secondary technical schools, and from 40 to 56 *yen* for graduates of technical colleges, while university graduates received starting salaries varying between 50 and 60 *yen* per month.

Graduates of medical colleges started at 100 *yen*, or even 160 *yen* ; graduates of science courses in universities, between 75 and 120 *yen* those of economics and commercial courses, 60 to 100 *yen* ; those of arts and literature, 70 to 97 *yen* ; those of the agricultural college, 60 to 86 *yen* ; and those of the law college, 65 to 80 *yen*. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, February 14, 1927.*)

Unemployment of Teachers

With widespread unemployment among manual workers, Great Britain is suffering also from unemployment in certain branches of non-manual work. At the annual conference of the London Teachers' Association, held in London on 12th February 1927 the question of unemployment of teachers was discussed.

It was stated that last year there were 29,000 applications for 5,000 vacancies in the training colleges. There being no means of limiting the number of candidates, the competition was naturally feverish, and the spectacle of highly trained men and women seeking employment is not of a nature to add to the dignity and prestige of the profession.

The declining birth-rate, it was added, seemed likely to be a permanent factor in regulating the demand of teachers. At the present moment there are 300,000 fewer children in the elementary schools than there were five years ago. In 1925 there were 1,822,000 children in the schools between 11 and 14 years of age. It was estimated that the number of 1930 would be only 1,431,000.

The number of teachers unsuccessful in securing employment on leaving college is increasing, and the supply has quite definitely overtaken the demand. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 14, 1927.*)

Workmen's Compensation

We give below an interesting judgment delivered in the High Court in an appeal from an order made by the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay. The facts of the case are given in their Lordships' judgment.

Appeal No. 162 of 1926 from Original Decree.

The Ahmedabad Cotton Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Ltd. (Original Opposite party). *Appellant.*

Bai Budhian Rajaram, widow of deceased workman Kalicharan Nanu (Original Applicant). *Respondent.*

Appeal against the order of N. M. Patvardhan, Esquire, Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay, in an Application No. 22—B-5 of 1926.

Mr. H. V. Divatia for the appellant.

Counsel : Mr. Ambedkar with Mr. B. G. Modak for the respondent.

17th December 1926.

(Coram :—Patkar and Baker, JJ.)

Judgment (per Patkar, J.).—In this case one Kalicharan Nanu was employed as a jobber in the Ahmedabad Cotton Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and died on the 30th November 1925 as a result of an accident while employed in the Weaving Department.

Some time before the date of the accident the Mill authorities had commenced the work of replacing the corrugated iron sheets on the roof of the Weaving Department by wooden planks and in order to protect the cloth that was being manufactured from the dust that would fall from the roof, a temporary hessian cover was put over that portion of the weaving shed when the work of replacing was actually being done. Two theories were advanced before the lower Court as how the accident happened. One was that while the jobber was putting the belt on the pulley a piece of the hessian cloth got entangled in the belt and in trying to remove that piece the deceased himself got entangled. And the other theory was that he went to cut a portion of the hessian cover in order to admit more light and the accident happened. The Commissioner has accepted the latter theory, and in his judgment he says :—

" The jobber in question having discovered want of light tried to remove it or cut it so as to let light in. This work was really simple not involving any danger. Unfortunately, however, a portion of the cover got entangled in the belt (as the weaver says) and in trying to remove it the poor man was killed. A jobber in the weaving department is there to supervise the weavers and to help them in carrying on their work and to remove impediments in their way. I do not at all see how it could be said that if he tried to get more light for the weavers by cutting or removing the cover he was doing some thing which he was not employed to do."

Under proviso to section 30 of the Workmen's Compensation Act VIII of 1923, we have to take the finding of the lower Court as correct, and to see whether there is any substantial question of law involved in the case.

It is argued on behalf of the appellant that the injury which was caused to the workman in this case did not arise out of and in the course of his employment within the meaning of section 3 of the Workmen's Compensation Act. It is urged that the work of removing the hessian cloth belonged to the engineering department and not to the weaving department, and if the workman meddled with the work which was entrusted to the engineering department, the injury which was caused to the workman while removing the hessian cloth did not arise out of and in the course of his employment. If the words were strictly construed, it might be said that the removal of the hessian cloth did not arise out of and in the course of his employment, for that was the work entrusted to the engineering department. But if the Act was liberally construed, the injury caused to the workman can be said to have arisen out of and in the course of his employment.

In Willis's Workmen's Compensation, page 40, it is stated :—

" An act, though strictly not one which the workman is required by his employment to perform, may still be regarded as within the sphere of his employment if it is a reasonable or necessary thing to do under all the circumstances, unless it has been expressly or impliedly excluded from his employment, or is such as to constitute an added peril."

According to the evidence the removal of the hessian cloth was not attended by any peril. Erackshaw Kaikuboo Dastur says in his evidence:—

" Beyond telling the carpenters under me that to protect the cloth which was being manufactured on the looms from the dust falling they should put hessian covers, I did not give any orders. No necessity of detailed orders was seen by me as that work of putting and removing the covers was done at a time when the Mill was not working. The work was so simple that I did not think it necessary to entrust it to a particular man so that he may be held responsible for it."

In Ruegg's Workmen's Compensation, page 115, it is said :—

" If a workman is injured whilst doing his work which although not strictly the work required of him by the terms of his contract, is yet such as a reasonable employer had he been present would reasonably be expected to acquiesce in the workman performing in the special circumstances (although strictly not an emergency) and if such work is for the employer's benefit, and such as the workman is competent to perform, then the workman in such a case is not outside the scope or sphere of his employment and is within the protection of the Act."

In this case we have to consider whether the action of the workman was reasonable, necessary and incidental to the work which was entrusted to him. Some liberty must be left to the workman in order to perform his work efficiently. He was a jobber and was paid by piece-work, and it was both his interest and duty to see that the work was done efficiently, and if want of light interfered with the efficiency of the work and the production of the cloth, it was his duty, if there was any impediment in the way, to remove it. If he thought that the existence of the hessian cloth interfered with the necessary light, it follows that the removal of the cloth was reasonable, necessary and incidental to the work entrusted to him. And the learned Commissioner has found that the jobber in the weaving department had to supervise the weavers and to help them in carrying on

their work and to remove the impediments in their way. We think that the act of the workman in removing the hessian cloth in order to admit more light was incidental to his work and was done in the performance of his duty, and arose out of and in the course of his employment.

In Butterworth's Workmen's Compensation Cases, volume VIII, page 56, the Court accepted the view of the County Court Judge who said :—

" I find it was done in order to get over a difficulty which he encountered in carrying out the work which he was employed to do, *viz.*, the driving of the motor-van, and that what he did was required to be done, and was honestly done in furtherance of the object which he was instructed to effect and I hold that, in doing it, he was not acting outside the sphere of his employment."

We think that in this case the act of the workman in removing the hessian cloth was done for the purpose of removing the impediment in the way of the work with which he was entrusted, and that the injury which was caused to the workman arose out of and in the course of his employment.

We, therefore, confirm the decree of the lower Court and dismiss this appeal with costs.

* * * * * *

We give below two judgments by the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation in cases which came before him.

TRAVELLING WITH RAILWAY PASS

Liability of Employer

(1) Bhika Mavji. Father, residing at Kurla .. *Petitioner.*

versus

Agent, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay .. *Opposite party.*

Claim—Rs. 750

The Petitioner prays for an order against the opposite party to deposit compensation on account of the death of one Mavji Bhika on the 22nd of July 1926.

The said Mavji was a gangman under the permanent way inspector, Byculla, and his sphere of duty was the section between Victoria Terminus to Mile No. 7 of the permanent way. He used to live at Kurla and as is the practice of the Railway Company a weekly badge used to be given to him to enable him to travel between Kurla and Bombay to join his duty. No doubt, the badge was available between Bombay and Kalyan. But this is merely because the Railway do not issue out any special badge according to the needs of every individual but as they know that a number of their coolies are living along the suburban line they give them these badges irrespective of the place where they live. It is admitted that this man was not injured while he was working on the permanent way but as stated in the petition, in paragraph 2, while he was returning to Kurla by one of the electric trains of the Company, after the daily work was over at 5 p.m. he was injured and killed. The question to be decided therefore

is whether the accident arose out of and in the course of his employment. I find on that question in the negative for the following reasons :—

First it has to be remembered that it was not during the course of his employment that the accident took place but afterwards while he was returning home. It is however argued by the counsel for applicant relying on 18 B.W.C.C. 427, 18 B.W.C.C. 1 that it was the duty of the workman to travel by the Company's train while going to and returning from his work or at least if not his duty it was at least a matter of proved necessity for the workman to travel by the Company's train. They further argue that as the badge was for use between Victoria Terminus and Kalyan, the sphere of his employment extended between these two stations. As noted above it was only a matter of convenience that the badge was given to him. There was no contract express or implied between the Railway Company and the workman making it obligatory on the Company to provide the workman with the badge or on the workman to travel by the Company's train. If only because the Company afforded a certain facility to the workman it does not therefore render them liable. The case of *Hewitson* v. *St. Helen's Colliery Co.* 1924, A.C.59 is a clear authority on this point. I therefore dismiss the application. I make no order as to costs.

* * * * * *

CAUSE OF DEATH

Accident or Natural Causes?

Indra Kom Bapu Bhise minor by guardian Genu Tukaram Dhone at Barsi *Petitioner.*

versus

The Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Sholapur .. *Opposite party.*

Claim—Rs. 600

The Petitioner prays for an order against the opposite party to deposit compensation on account of the death of one Bapu Narayan on 2nd June 1926 in the course of his employment as a weaver with the opposite party.

The petitioner is the minor widow of the deceased and applies by her father as her natural guardian.

The defence of the opposite party is that the death was due to natural causes.

The question to decide is whether the death of the deceased was due to an accident arising out of his employment.

The opposite party in support of their case have cited Lieutenant-Colonel Gharpuray, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon, Sholapur. He produces a a copy of the certificate that he gave to the police after the post mortem examination. According to Lieutenant-Colonel Gharpuray death was due to suffocation caused by regurgitation of food from the stomach into the trachea and bronchi of both the lungs.

The applicant contends that the death was due to the deceased having received an electric shock. The deceased was working on a loom worked by electric power and it is contended the electric current must have been leaking in the vicinity where he was working and he happened to touch that place which was charged by the leakage. The electrician of the mill says, that immediately after the falling down of the deceased he was sent for to find if there was any leakage and found there was none. The Government Electric Inspector, Sholapur, also inspected the installation and could trace no leakage.

As against this evidence the applicant relies on the testimony of two employees in that department. One has simply to read it to find that it does not help the applicant against the positive evidence cited above. I find therefore that death was due to natural causes as certified by the Civil Surgeon. The result is that the petition is dismissed. Taking the peculiar circumstances into consideration I make no order as to costs.

Conditions of Labour in the Carpet Industry in the Punjab

All the persons employed in the industry are Mahomedans. In Amritsar they are Kashmiris by caste, while in Multan they claim to belong to higher castes, such as Pathans, Khawajas and Chishtis. The Kashmiri weavers in Amritsar have now begun taking apprentices of other castes of Mahomedans such as Mochis, Rajputs, Sheikhs, Kakazai, Barwalas, Morasis, etc.

Wages of all workers, except the weaver, are fixed and are paid monthly. The dyer earns from Rs. 30 to Rs. 60 according to qualifications, and the designers and the *talimnavis* are about on the same scale. The weaver always works on contract. In Amritsar the manufacturer contracts for the weaving of the carpet with a master-weaver and the latter engages other hands, usually boys, to assist him in the work. A weaver may earn from Re. 1 to Rs. 2 per day according to the number of stitches he weaves.

The general condition of the factory labour is good. All the labour is local and most of the workers have got their own houses to live in. The weaver is by habit and tradition lazy, and inspite of the good wages he earns he has always to depend upon his employers for occasional advances to meet his needs ; so much so that it has now become a custom with him to start work in a factory only after getting an advance. These advances are not very often returned by him since he can leave his work to find a ready job in another factory without much fear of molestation on the part of his former employer. Large balances from the employer thus remain outstanding towards these workmen and there is no suitable law enabling him to recover these. This is one of the great drawbacks in the way of the development of this industry on an extensive scale. No efforts have as yet succeeded to make the weaver realise his responsibility in the matter and little hope can be cherished for the future. (*From "Indian Textile Journal," Bombay, March 1927.*)

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Foreign Countries

It is proposed to deal in this article with the recent movements of the official price index numbers for certain countries for which latest information is available. It must at the outset be pointed out that the index numbers are not strictly comparable owing to the employment of different base periods, selection and grouping of commodities and methods of construction and also because of the inclusion of varying numbers of "representative" items and localities, which show considerable differences in different countries. Nor is any attempt made here to "change" the basis uniformly to some prewar year owing to the obvious difficulties and inconsistencies in some of the methods* adopted for this purpose. The presentation of the figures is however intended to show only the relative movements of prices in various countries.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Board of Trade Wholesale Prices Index Number (which has for its basis average 1913 prices =100) is a geometric mean of 150 monthly price quotations arranged in eight different groups as follows :—Cereals (17 items), meat and fish (17 items), other foods (19 items), iron and steel (24 items), other metals and minerals (20 items), cotton (16 items), other textiles (15 items), and miscellaneous (22 items). The following table compares the group index numbers for the different months in the year 1926 :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in the United Kingdom for the year 1926

(Average for 1913 = 100)

Groups	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Cereals	163·5	154·1	148·2	144·1	148·3	150·0
Meat and fish ..	161·7	164·9	156·3	150·5	148·8	157·1
Other foods ..	173·2	166·9	170·1	156·0	157·3	166·1
Total food ..	166·5	162·1	158·5	150·5	151·7	158·0
Iron and steel ..	126·0	118·8	118·0	117·6	117·2	117·0
Other metals and minerals	133·3	131·0	130·7	129·5	129·5	128·8
Cotton	209·8	175·0	173·6	165·0	162·2	164·2
Other Textiles ..	186·4	176·4	172·1	167·8	162·1	160·0
Miscellaneous ..	157·4	153·0	148·9	146·8	144·2	140·3
Total non-food ..	154·9	145·6	143·6	141·0	139·0	138·0
All articles ..	159·1	151·3	148·8	144·4	143·6	144·9

* The method most commonly used for reducing index numbers to a uniform basis is to take the pre-war index as equal to 100 and then to transform the original series into new series having the fixed pre-war year as base. This method is obviously not quite correct in cases where arithmetical averages are used in the construction of indexes.

Index numbers of wholesale prices in the United Kingdom for the year 1926—contd.

(Average for 1913=100)

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Cereals	149·7	150·8	152·1	148·3	151·9	156·1	..
Meat and fish ..	154·1	151·5	153·3	151·5	154·8	152·7	..
Other foods ..	161·4	157·9	156·4	157·9	162·8	160·6	..
Total food ..	155·2	153·4	154·0	152·8	156·8	156·7	155·0
Iron and steel ..	119·8	124·5	125·0	126·5	132·0	134·5	..
Other metals and minerals	144·5	159·6	160·7	171·2	176·0	185·1	..
Cotton	161·1	158·3	159·5	162·9	147·2	140·6	..
Other Textiles ..	157·6	157·4	154·5	156·3	155·7	152·9	..
Miscellaneous ..	140·9	143·3	144·4	144·8	144·7	144·4	..
Total non-food ..	141·5	145·8	146·2	149·6	149·3	150·0	141·2
All articles ..	146·4	148·7	149·1	150·9	152·1	152·4	146·1

During 1926, the Board of Trade index number declined from 151·3 in January to 143·6 in April and afterwards rose steadily to 152·4 in November 1926, recording a decrease of 6·3 points in December. The food index varied between 162·1 in January and 150·5 in March and stood at 155·0 in December. The non-food index moved more or less in conformity with the general average reaching its lowest level (138) in May and its maximum (150) in November. The food, non-food and general index numbers for 1925 were 166·5, 154·9 and 159·1 respectively.

FRANCE

The wholesale prices index numbers are compiled by the Statistique Generale de la France (Paris) and relate to the end of the month prices of 45 commodities (20 food-stuffs and 25 industrial raw and manufactured materials). The 20 food-stuffs are divided into three sub-groups, *viz.*, vegetable products (8 items), animal products (8 items) and sugar, coffee and cocoa (4 items), whilst the industrial materials comprise minerals and metals (7 items), textiles (6 items) and miscellaneous (12 items). The base periods are 1901-1910 = 100 and also July 1914 = 100. Group index numbers on base July 1914 are set out in the following table :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in France for the year 1926

(July 1914=100)

Groups of Commodities	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Vegetable products ..	496	538	534	539	583	637
Animal products ..	476	511	515	516	514	525
Sugar, coffee, and cocoa	482	562	582	580	624	673
Food-stuffs (general) ..	479	531	535	537	561	597
Minerals and metals ..	571	698	719	718	726	757
Textiles	763	887	872	862	876	933
Miscellaneous ..	594	695	693	680	696	971
Industrial materials (general)	634	748	749	740	753	794
General Index (all goods)	561	647	649	645	664	702

Index numbers of wholesale prices in France for the year 1926—contd.

(July 1914 = 100)

Groups of Commodities	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Vegetable products ..	731	788	745	801	790	687	603
Animal products ..	533	552	544	554	568	570	550
Sugar, coffee and cocoa .	717	861	804	846	773	714	692
Food-stuffs (general) ..	646	703	672	706	695	643	597
Minerals and metals ..	837	1,025	919	941	855	788	726
Textiles	971	1,147	940	939	823	706	626
Miscellaneous ..	781	863	831	827	822	747	680
Industrial materials (general).. ..	848	985	885	889	831	747	678
General Index (all goods)	754	854	785	804	768	698	640

The wholesale prices index number was 647 in January, 664 in April, 854 in July, 768 in October and 640 in December 1926 as compared with the annual average of 561 for 1925. The all foods index showed a continuous rise from 531 in January to 703 in July reaching its maximum (706) in September and then dropped to 597 in December. In the case of industrial materials, the index was highest (985) in July and lowest (678) in December.

BELGIUM

The index numbers are computed by the Ministry of Industry and Labour (Ministere de L'Industrie du Travail, Bruxelles) and published monthly in the "Revue du Travail." One hundred and twenty-eight articles are included and arranged in 17 groups. The prices collected relate to the second half of the month. The base period is April 1914 = 100. The group and general index numbers are arrived at by taking the geometric mean of the price relatives. The system of weighting is indirect. The following table gives the index numbers by groups for the year 1926 :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Belgium for the year 1926

(April 1914 = 100)

Groups of Commodities	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Foodstuffs .. .	591	580	570	585	638	736
Fuel	510	505	526	528	536	596
Coal tar and derivatives .	593	707	759	1,024	1,071	1,147
Metallurgical products ..	514	515	511	530	561	659
Petroleum	591	607	605	667	722	857
Pottery	600	603	616	621	617	640
Glass	450	457	457	457	457	501
Chemicals	451	470	469	472	517	579
Chemical fertilisers ..	444	476	467	495	523	566
Fats	567	566	561	619	700	800
Textiles	773	719	706	752	817	892
Building materials ..	494	498	496	504	518	545
Resinous products ..	828	1,006	982	1,030	1,063	1,330
Skins and Leather ..	424	425	418	435	482	526

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Belgium for the year 1926—contd.

(April 1914 = 100)

Groups of Commodities	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Tobacco	472	455	455	455	455	545
Paper	671	707	707	846	934	994
Rubber (Raw) ..	414	428	349	415	358	395
General Index (all goods)	558	560	556	583	621	692

Groups of Commodities	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Foodstuffs	826	953	822	881	918	933	945
Fuel	716	837	899	1,007	1,142	1,294	1,238
Coal tar and derivatives.	1,319	1,713	1,626	2,028	2,287	2,402	2,102
Metallurgical products ..	714	840	859	887	885	900	893
Petroleum	1,048	1,234	1,180	1,194	1,174	1,162	1,168
Pottery	686	778	794	788	783	791	790
Glass	501	501	501	501	501	501	501
Chemicals	615	715	678	703	702	700	705
Chemical fertilisers ..	643	733	680	694	682	688	693
Fats	956	1 098	977	989	976	935	916
Textiles	973	1,080	1,112	993	914	922	916
Building materials ..	579	638	636	640	645	662	664
Resinous products ..	1,388	1,681	1,557	1,516	1,400	1,422	1,482
Skins and Leather ..	561	680	668	677	699	695	686
Tobacco	682	773	773	773	773	773	773
Paper	994	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252
Rubber (Raw) ..	397	467	401	421	413	394	353
General Index (all goods)	761	876	836	859	856	865	860

The general level of wholesale prices in Belgium showed a steady rise from 560 in January to 876 in July and thereafter fluctuated somewhat being 860 in December. The movements of the food-stuffs index were also similar, standing as it did at 580 in January, 953 in July and 945 in December. The index number for fuel advanced from 505 in January to 1294 in November and was 1238 in December. Most of the groups showed a tendency to rise till July and thereafter fluctuated within narrow limits.

POLAND

The index number is compiled by the Central Statistical Bureau (L'Office Central de Statistique), Warsaw, and published in Wiadomosci Statystyczne. The 57 items included in the index are classified in 8 groups, *viz.* (1) cereals and vegetable foods (2) animal foods (3) groceries and sugar (4) hides and leather (5) raw materials for textiles (6) metals and coal (7) building materials and (8) chemicals and miscellaneous. The base period is 1914 = 100 and the prices collected are for the last week of the month. The general index numbers are shown in the following table :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Poland for the year 1926

(1914 = 100)

—	December 1925	January	February	March	April	May
General Index ..	154·8	142·1	146·1	145·7	166·6	181·2

—	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
General Index ..	174·6	166·6	173·2	177·2	177·2	178 6	176·9

The general index of wholesale pr ces which stood at 142·1 in January rose to 181·2 in May and then with slight fluctuations, went down to 176·9 in December.

NETHERLANDS

The index numbers of wholesa'e prices are published in *Maandschrift* issued by the Dutch Statistical Office (Central Bureau Voor De Statistiek). The index covers 48 articles of which 28 are food articles and is constructed on the basis of prices in 1913=100. The index is the simple arithmetic average of the price relatives of different commodities included in it. The table below gives the index numbers for the food group and for all articles :—

Wholesale prices index numbers in the Netherlands for the year 1926

(1913 = 100)

—	December 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Food Index ..	160	156	152	145	142	142
General Index ..	155	153	149	145	143	143

—	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food Index ..	145	139	134	135	142	150	150
General Index ..	144	141	139	140	143	147	147

The general index on base 1913=100 declined from 153 in January to 139 in August and then rose to 147 in November and December. The changes in the food index conformed to those of the general average.

GERMANY

The Index numbers of wholesale prices are published in *Wirtschaft und Statistik* issued by the Federal Labour Office. The food-stuffs

and industrial materials included are divided into 7 groups, *viz.*, cereals and potatoes; fats, sugar, meat and fish; provisions and hops; skins and leather; textiles; metals and petroleum; and coal and iron. Separate index numbers are also published for German goods and for imported goods. The base is average for 1913=100. The index numbers refer to the averages for the month. The table below gives the index numbers for the individual groups :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Germany for the year 1926

(1913 = 100)

Groups of Commodities	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Cereals and Potatoes ..	118·6	101·0	98·2	99·4	112·1	113·8
Fat, Sugar, Meat & Fish.	138·5	133·6	133·8	134·3	132·2	132·8
Provisions and hops ..	179·1	185·2	182·9	179·7	179·6	178·6
Skins and leather ..	126·2	112·9	109·6	106·9	106·5	105·5
Textiles	195·1	176·3	172·4	165·1	158·4	153·3
Metals and Petroleum ..	131·2	127·8	127·0	126·6	124·1	124·0
Coal and Iron ..	121·6	119·8	119·9	119·8	117·4	117·4
Foodstuffs (general) ..	127·5	114·5	112·4	113·1	121·5	122·8
Industrial materials (general)	135·8	130·4	129·5	128·0	124·9	124·0
German goods ..	123·0	112·1	110·6	111·3	117·2	118·2
Imported goods ..	167·1	159·7	157·2	153·3	150·1	147·9
General Index (all goods)	130·4	120·0	118·4	118·3	122·7	123·2

Groups of Commodities	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Cereals and Potatoes ..	117·4	123·6	121·8	120·5	129·4	132·7	..
Fats, Sugar, Meat & Fish	132·4	132·3	136·5	135·9	134·1	135·1	..
Provisions and hops ..	176·7	175·6	174·1	174·8	178·1	176·9	..
Skins and leather ..	105·7	106·3	112·7	116·0	114·4	114·4	..
Textiles	151·9	147·9	142·4	144·5	136·9	133·4	..
Metals and Petroleum ..	123·8	125·3	126·4	126·5	126·2	126·2	..
Coal and Iron ..	117·4	118·5	118·5	119·7	119·7	119·9	..
Foodstuffs (general) ..	125·0	129·2	128·9	127·9	133·9	136·3	135·0
Industrial materials (general)	123·7	124·0	123·5	124·7	123·3	122·9	123·2
German goods ..	120·1	123·8	123·6	123·1	127·6	129·6	..
Imported goods ..	146·8	145·5	144·0	145·3	143·2	141·6	..
General Index (all goods)	124·6	127·4	127·0	126·8	130·2	131·6	130·9

The index number of the Federal Statistical Office rose from 120·0 in January to 130·9 in December. The all-food index also increased from 114·5 in January to 135·0 in December, but the index number for industrial materials recorded a decrease from 130·4 to 123·2 during the same period. The index numbers for German goods and imported goods were 112·1 and 159·7 in January as against 129·6 and 141·6 respectively in November.

UNITED STATES

The wholesale prices index numbers are published in the Monthly Labor Review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 404 commodities included are arranged in 9 groups as under :—Farm products (57 items) ; foods (83 items) ; clothing materials (65 items) ; fuels (19 items) ; metals and metal products (37 items) ; building materials (48 items) ; chemicals and drugs (39 items) ; house furnishing goods (31 items) and miscellaneous (25 items). The weights used are based on the quantities marketed in 1919 and the basis of the index is 1913 prices- 100. Individual group index numbers for the various months of the year 1926 can be seen from the following table :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in the U. S. A. for the year 1926

(1913 = 100)

Groups	December 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Farm products ..	152·2	151·8	149·9	144·0	144·9	144·2
Foods	157·1	156·2	153·2	151·4	153·2	153·8
Clothing materials ..	187·1	185·5	183·9	180·5	176·8	176·1
Fuels	174·8	176·5	179·4	175·1	174·0	178·7
Metals and metal products	129·5	128·9	128·4	127·7	126·5	125·2
Building materials ..	177·0	177·9	177·1	175·5	173·2	171·6
Chemicals and drugs ..	134·5	133·2	132·3	131·6	130·3	130·7
House furnishing goods .	165·9	164·9	163·9	163·9	163·4	162·2
Miscellaneous ..	138·2	135·3	132·9	128·3	126·5	124·7
All commodities ..	156·2	156·0	155·0	151·5	151·1	151·7

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Farm products ..	143·7	140·8	137·9	141·1	139·4	134·6	134·9
Foods	156·6	153·6	150·8	152·0	152·0	151·1	151·0
Clothing materials ..	175·1	173·3	174·7	175·2	171·5	169·9	168·6
Fuels	179·2	177·0	179·5	182·0	184·4	190·2	182·9
Metals and metal products	125·1	126·2	126·6	127·0	126·7	126·5	125·7
Building materials ..	171·2	171·5	171·8	172·4	172·1	174·0	172·7
Chemicals and drugs ..	131·1	130·9	130·8	130·8	129·3	128·5	128·2
House furnishing goods .	161·7	161·1	160·8	160·4	160·3	159·9	159·4
Miscellaneous ..	122·5	122·5	121·8	120·4	118·6	117·7	117·8
All commodities ..	152·3	150·7	149·2	150·5	149·7	148·1	147·2

The Bureau of Labor Statistics index of wholesale prices decreased from 156 in January to 147·2 in December. The fall in the food index, though similar, was less pronounced. Farm products declined from 151·8 to 134·9 and clothing materials from 185·5 to 168·6 during the period. Fuels was the only group which registered a rise towards the close of the year.

CHINA (SHANGHAI)

The Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets publishes index numbers of wholesale prices in Shanghai in their monthly report on prices. The

147 commodities included in the index are arranged in five different groups: namely, cereals (14 items), other food products (26 items), textiles (27 items), metals (11 items) and miscellaneous goods (69 items). The last group is again sub-divided into four groups, *viz.*, fuels (12 items), building materials (14 items), industrial materials (21 items) and sundries (22 items). The prices used are in Shanghai taels as quoted on the 15th of each month and the basic period is February 1913 = 100. The following table shows the changes in the group index numbers in the year 1926.

Index numbers of wholesale prices in China (Shanghai) for the year 1926

(February 1913 = 100)

Groups	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Cereals	154·0	156·1	160·6	165·9	166·2	164·5
Other food products ..	154·9	158·6	163·5	162·2	162·6	155·6
Textiles	155·4	146·8	147·5	144·6	144·3	139·5
Metals	184·7	214·6	199·4	204·7	195·1	191·7
Miscellaneous—						
(*i*) Fuels ..	155·4	141·2	137·9	144·4	144·7	147·6
(*ii*) Building materials.	141·0	144·8	149·8	144·9	148·2	152·4
(*iii*) Industrial materials ..	158·2	153·3	153·6	152·8	153·3	152·1
(*iv*) Sundries ..	137·9	135·6	134·9	137·2	137·6	136·5
All Miscellaneous ..	148·1	143·7	144·0	144·8	145·9	147·1
General Average ..	159·4	164·0	163·0	164·4	162·8	159·7

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Cereals	162·5	162·3	163·4	168·9	183·4	176·3	173·6
Other food products ..	165·9	162·4	165·8	166·4	171·7	179·6	177·8
Textiles	139·9	139·6	139·2	140·6	142·5	143·2	141·9
Metals	165·5	174·1	190·1	199·6	208·1	218·1	208·9
Miscellaneous—							
(*i*) Fuels ..	145·9	149·4	144·5	148·7	150·0	157·3	165·1
(*ii*) Building materials.	150·3	151·2	148·8	151·8	153·5	159·2	163·0
(*iii*) Industrial materials ..	151·1	151·7	151·6	151·5	158·4	162·9	161·7
(*iv*) Sundries ..	133·5	131·3	130·3	130·7	136·7	139·2	141·3
All Miscellaneous ..	145·2	145·9	143·8	145·7	149·6	154·6	157·8
General Average ..	155·8	156·9	160·5	164·2	171·1	174·4	172·0

The wholesale prices index number in Shanghai showed a decrease from 164 in January to 155·8 in June and subsequently rose to 172·0 in December. The index number for cereals was lowest (156·1) in January and highest (183·4) in October. Other food products rose from 158·6 in January to 177·8 in December whilst textiles declined from 146·8 to 141·9 during the interval. Fuels and Building materials stood at 141·2 and 144·8 respectively in January, but were 165·1 and 163·0 in December.

The industrial materials advanced by 8·4 points to 161·7 during the twelve months ended December 1926.

JAPAN

The index numbers of average monthly wholesale prices for Japan are those compiled by the Bank of Japan, Tokyo, and include 56 items, 19 of which are food articles and 37 non-food articles, *i.e.*, raw materials and manufactured goods. The prices are supplied by merchants and associations in Tokyo and Yokohama. The base taken is October 1900 = 100 and the index is a simple arithmetic average of the price relatives of individual commodities. The general index numbers for the year 1926 are given below :—

The Index numbers of wholesale prices in Japan for the year 1926

(Base : October 1900 = 100)

Month and Year			*General Index*
Average for	1925	..	266·7
January	1926	..	254·2
February	,,	..	249·2
March	,,	..	243·9
April	,,	..	238·9
May	,,	..	234·6
June	,,	..	234·8
July	,,	..	236·5
August	,,	..	234·0
September	,,	..	232·2
October	,,	..	230·4
November	,,	..	226·9
December	,,	..	224·3

Taking October 1900 prices as equal to 100, the wholesale prices index number declined with some slight fluctuations from 254·2 in January to 224·3 in December 1926. The annual average for 1925 was 266·7, the average for 1913 being 132·3.

JAVA (BATAVIA)

The wholesale price indexes for Batavia are compiled by the Central Kantoor Voor De Statistiek, Weltevreden and consist of 72 import and 20 export articles. The import articles are sub-divided into five groups, *viz.*, food stuffs (12 items), textiles (20 items), metals (12 items), chemicals (15 items), and miscellaneous (13 items). The number of articles in both the import and export groups has been revised (1913-1921 = 48 articles ; 1922-24 = 68 articles) from time to time and the latest extensive series contains 92 articles. The basis of the index is average 1913 prices = 100. The index numbers for the different groups are set out in the following table :—

Wholesale prices index numbers in Batavia (Java) for the year 1926*

(1913 = 100)

Groups	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Textiles	208	196	195	194	191	186
Foodstuffs	161	170	166	164	158	158
Metals	161	168	168	168	155	148
Chemicals	150	177	175	176	158	157
Miscellaneous ..	165	193	196	191	160	157
Import Articles ..	172	182	181	180	167	164
Export Articles ..	146	149	144	138	133	136
General Index ..	166	172	170	167	160	158

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Textiles	183	183	182	181	178	177	175
Foodstuffs	160	160	159	157	156	151	152
Metals	149	149	149	151	150	151	150
Chemicals	156	153	155	154	154	153	151
Miscellaneous ..	157	156	156	157	175	175	173
Import Articles ..	164	162	162	162	164	163	162
Export Articles ..	134	132	131	132	133	135	136
General Index ..	157	156	155	156	158	157	156

The wholesale prices index number for a series of 92 articles in Batavia stood at 160 in April, steadily declined to 155 in August and was 158 in October and 156 in December. The food index was 158 in April and May, 160 in June and July and then declined to 152 in December. Textiles also declined by 16 points to 175 during the nine months ended December.

EGYPT

The Statistical Department of Cairo publishes wholesale prices index numbers in the Monthly Agricultural and Economic Statistics. Twenty-six commodities are included in the index number and the base period is 1st January 1913 to 31st July 1914 = 100. Index numbers are worked out by taking the geometric mean of the percentages without reference to the importance of each article. The prices used are the averages for the month. The general index numbers for the different months in the year 1926 are as follows :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Egypt (Cairo) for the year 1926

(Base : average prices from 1st January 1913 to 31st July 1914 = 100)

—	December 1925	January	February	March	April	May
General Index number..	140	134	134	134	133	128

* The figures from January to March relate to 71 articles and the subsequent figures to 92 articles.

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Egypt (Cairo) for the year 1926—contd.

(Base : average prices from 1st January 1913 to 31st July 1914 = 100)

——	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
General Index number..	129	129	129	129	129	130	130

The general index number which stood at 134 from January to March declined to 128 in May, was 129 from June to October and 130 in November and December.

SOUTH AFRICA

The quarterly index numbers are published by the Census and Statistics Office, Pretoria, in the Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics. The list of commodities comprises 187 articles divided in 11 groups, *viz.*, metals (18 items), jute, leather, hides and skins (20 items), grains, meals, etc. (23 items), dairy produce (6 items), groceries (37 items), meat (5 items), building materials (28 items), chemicals (14 items), fuel and lighting (6 items), soft goods (17 items), and miscellaneous (13 items). Direct weighting by the aggregate expenditure method is used. Separate index numbers for South African goods and imported goods are also published. The base is 1910=1000. The various group indexes are shown in the following table :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in South Africa for the year 1926

(1910 = 1000)

Groups	Average for 1925	January	April	July	October
Metals	1,402	1,386	1,344	1,314	1,306
Jute, Leather, Hides and Skins.	1,947	1,951	1,881	1,739	1,672
Grains, metals, etc. ..	1,395	1,388	1,303	1,365	1,520
Dairy Produce	1,304	1,175	1,212	1,217	1,179
Groceries	1,364	1,300	1,293	1,281	1,288
Meat	1,394	1,235	1,194	1,200	1,300
Building Materials ..	1,299	1,281	1,282	1,278	1,279
Chemicals	936	911	925	953	968
Fuel and Light	1,229	1,265	1,254	1,256	1,243
Soft Goods	2,169	2,142	2,050	2,033	1,985
Miscellaneous	1,698	1,690	1,689	1,679	1,678
All Groups	1,436	1,397	1,355	1,368	1,423
South African Goods ..	1,309	1,257	1,210	1,240	1,333
Imported Goods	1,730	1,705	1,663	1,648	1,629

The all-groups index varied between 1355 in April and 1423 in October. Metals declined from 1386 in January to 1306 in October and jute, leather, etc., from 1951 to 1672. Grains, meals, etc., and meat were lowest in April and highest in October. Dairy produce, groceries and fuel and light showed slight fluctuations. South African goods and imported goods stood at 1257 and 1705 respectively in January and were 1333 and 1629 in October.

AUSTRALIA (MELBOURNE)

The Melbourne wholesale prices index numbers are based on 92 commodities arranged in 8 different groups as follows:—Metals and coal (14 items), jute, leather, etc. (10 items), agricultural produce, etc. (16 items), dairy produce (9 items), groceries (21 items), meat (5 items), building materials (10 items) and chemicals (7 items). The data are based mainly on reports of Melbourne market prices. In calculating the index number the method of direct weighting based on the aggregate expenditure on 92 commodities is used. The base period is 1911 = 1000. The following table shows the index numbers for the different groups for the year 1926 :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Australia for the year 1926

(1911 = 1000)

Groups	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Metals and coal ..	1,852	1,908	1,910	1,907	1,909	2,035
Jute, Leather, etc. ..	1,967	1,743	1,711	1,661	1,649	1,642
Agricultural produce, etc.	1,797	1,999	1,978	2,001	1,998	1,965
Dairy produce ..	1,636	1,693	1,782	1,862	2,000	1,968
Groceries	1,723	1,725	1,735	1,731	1,732	1,732
Meat	2,212	1,879	1,774	2,025	2,481	2,365
Building materials ..	1,711	1,663	1,634	1,622	1,617	1,611
Chemicals	1,790	1,784	1,784	1,784	1,776	1,776
All Groups	1,844	1,840	1,826	1,856	1,912	1,904

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Metals and coal ..	1,908	1,917	1,930	1,943	1,932	1,966	1,993
Jute, Leather, etc. ..	1,598	1,586	1,622	1,574	1,424	1,391	1,386
Agricultural produce, etc.	1,971	1,988	2,039	2,017	2,004	2,040	2,017
Dairy produce ..	1,927	1,822	1,747	1,687	1,627	1,605	1,690
Groceries	1,727	1,739	1,728	1,743	1,728	1,731	1,715
Meat	2,201	2,023	1,914	1,679	1,599	1,640	1,591
Building materials ..	1,638	1,705	1,761	1,691	1,692	1,670	1,670
Chemicals	1,828	1,843	1,843	1,843	1,843	1,843	1,843
All Groups	1,861	1,843	1,848	1,805	1,758	1,768	1,765

The Melbourne all groups index number rose from 1840 in January to a maximum of 1912 in April and then declined with some fluctuations to 1765 in December. Jute, leather, etc., registered a decrease, being 1743 in January and 1386 in December. Agricultural produce, etc., and groceries showed but slight fluctuations. Meat stood at 1879 in January, 2481 in April, 2023 in July and 1599 in October. In the case of the dairy produce, the maximum (2,000) was reached in April followed by a decline.

NEW ZEALAND

The index number is compiled by the Census and Statistics Office, Wellington, and published in the Monthly Abstract of Statistics. The base is the average annual aggregate expenditure of four chief centres during

1909-13 and is taken = 1000. The prices used relate to the middle of the month. The index numbers for the individual groups can be seen from the following table :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in New Zealand for the year 1926

(Average annual aggregate expenditure for four chief centres, 1909-1913 = 1000)

Groups	Average for the year 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Foodstuffs, etc., of vegetable origin ..	1,714	1,780	1,775	1,738	1,739	1,719
Textile manufactures ..	2,182	2,135	2,134	2,133	2,144	2,111
Wood and wood products	2,145	2,101	2,087	2,068	2,094	2,092
Animal products ..	1,568	1,480	1,493	1,454	1,420	1,432
Metals and their products	1,175	1,150	1,145	1,144	1,139	1,131
Non-metallic minerals and their products ..	1,512	1,475	1,470	1,469	1,461	1,465
Chemicals and manures	1,296	1,245	1,243	1,224	1,231	1,221
All groups	1,697	1,677	1,676	1,656	1,650	1,641

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Foodstuffs, etc., of vegetable origin ..	1,727	1,731	1,766	1,739	1,715	1,710	1,757
Textile manufactures ..	2,100	2,091	2,052	2,055	2,026	2,075	2,075
Wood and wood products	2,089	2,087	2,085	2,085	2,090	2,079	1,931
Animal products ..	1,433	1,433	1,372	1,345	1,370	1,261	1,364
Metals and their products	1,123	1,125	1,100	1,106	1,109	1,111	1,110
Non-metallic minerals and their products ..	1,445	1,485	1,461	1,464	1,451	1,468	1,435
Chemicals and manures	1,198	1,225	1,225	1,231	1,226	1,218	1,195
All groups ..	1,636	1,644	1,628	1,618	1,611	1,597	1,615

The all groups index number of the Census and Statistics Office gradually declined from 1677 in the beginning to 1615 towards the close of the year. The index number for foodstuffs, etc., was 1780 in January, 1739 in April, 1731 in July, 1715 in October and 1757 in December; while the corresponding figures for the animal products were 1480, 1420, 1433, 1370 and 1364 respectively.

CANADA

The index number calculated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, on base 1913 = 100 comprises 236 commodities weighted according to their commercial importance. The sub-groups are classified according to (i) chief component materials (vegetable, animal, wood, iron, etc.), (ii) origin (farm, forest, mineral, marine, etc.) and (iii) purpose (food, clothing, producers' goods, etc.). Group index numbers according to the first classification are set out in the following table :—

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Canada for the year 1926

(Average prices in 1913 = 100)

Groups	December 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Vegetable products (grains, fruits, etc.) ..	179·0	183·9	180·6	176·5	188·4	180·7
Animals and their products	153·9	148·5	146·4	145·4	137·2	133·5
Fibres, textiles and textile products ..	187·3	188·0	185·9	182·8	175·9	174·0
Wood, wood products and paper ..	159·6	159·7	159·8	156·8	156·9	155·4
Iron and its products ..	147·3	147·5	147·2	145·7	145·0	144·1
Non-ferrous metals and their products ..	106·0	105·9	105·0	105·7	104·4	103·5
Non metallic minerals and their products ..	177·2	177·2	177·8	170·7	177·0	174·6
Chemicals and allied products	158·0	157·6	157·2	157·2	157·5	157·2
Total index (236 commodities)	163·5	163·8	162·2	160·1	160·6	157·0

Groups	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Vegetable products (grains, fruits, etc.) ..	173·7	175·8	168·6	160·9	160·8	162·3	158·5
Animals and their products	137·5	135·5	135·8	141·0	142·1	142·8	143·2
Fibres, textiles and textile products ..	172·0	173·0	172·0	169·4	156·5	155·8	155·3
Wood, wood products and paper ..	155·5	155·5	156·0	155·1	155·5	155·5	155·7
Iron and its products ..	143·5	143·7	144·2	144·8	145·1	145·7	146·0
Non-ferrous metals and their products ..	104·1	104·6	101·2	101·2	98·1	97·7	96·7
Non-metallic minerals and their products ..	175·8	175·8	175·8	175·8	175·8	174·5	174·5
Chemicals and allied products	157·9	159·0	157·9	157·7	154·7	157·8	157·8
Total index (236 commodities) ..	155·7	156·2	153·9	152·5	151·1	151·5	150·5

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics wholesale prices index declined from 163·8 in January to 150·5 in December. Vegetable products declined from 183·9 to 158·5 during the period whilst animals and their products stood at 148·5 in January, 137·2 in April, 135·5 in July, 142·1 in October and 143·2 in December. The index number for Fibres, textiles and textile products averaged 188 in January, 172 in June, and 155·3 in December. Non-ferrous metals and their products stood at 105·9 in January, 104·1 in June and 96·7 in December. The fluctuations in the remaining groups were within narrow limits.

Cost of Living Index Numbers in various countries

A brief description of the scope and methods of construction of the group and general index numbers regarding cost of living in different countries is given below, from which it will be seen that neither the group nor the general index numbers for various countries are strictly comparable owing to differences in the number of items included, the methods of price-collection and the methods of compilation especially in regard to weighting. The two principal methods of assigning weights to the various commodities included in a cost of living index are (*a*) the family budget method and (*b*) the aggregate expenditure method. The family budget method implies the collection of information regarding the quantities consumed and the expenditure incurred by a standard or theoretical family representative of the class or community for which the index is compiled. Thus the standard budget weights are based on the average actual consumption or expenditure by a number of families for a certain period; and the theoretical budget method is based partly on family budgets and partly on theoretical considerations. The aggregate expenditure method assumes the possibility of determining the importance of various commodities according to their uses as obtained by adding production and imports and deducting exports.

Owing to the difficulty of getting comparable price-data for the same or nearly the same varieties from month to month and also because of other obvious difficulties, it is not possible to include all the items entering into a family budget when either method is followed and therefore in most countries the best possible selection is made of the so-called " representative " items. The table at the end of the Gazette gives the cost of living index numbers for the different countries whilst the numbers of items included in each group are shown in the notes that follow.

Scope and Methods of construction of Cost of Living Index Numbers in various countries

UNITED KINGDOM

The cost of living index number compiled by the Ministry of Labour comprises 5 groups, *viz.*, food (20 items), clothing (8 items), fuel and light (5 items), rent (1 item), and sundries (8 items). The index is based on July 1914 prices which are taken as 100. Prices are collected at the beginning of each month from representative retailers in about 630 localities for food articles and in 97 towns for clothing.

Both the group and general index numbers are arrived at by weighting the items according to their relative importance in the average expenditure of 1944 working class family budgets collected by the Board of Trade in 1904, the data being supplemented by those obtained in an enquiry into rents, retail prices, etc., in 1912.

The index numbers for food are calculated separately for large towns and also for smaller towns taken together.

CANADA

The Department of Labour publishes monthly in the Labour Gazette the actual cost per week of 36 articles, *viz.*, 29 items of food, 5 items of fuel and light, laundry starch and rent, weighted according to the estimated consumption of a normal family of 5 persons with an income of $21 per week in 1913. The expenditure on the items included is estimated to represent about 65 per cent. of the total weekly expenditure in 1912. The Dominion index is worked out in terms of the averages of prices collected at the beginning of each month in about 60 cities on the basis of July 1914 prices = 100.

AUSTRALIA

The cost of living index which is quarterly is constructed by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics and contains two groups, *viz.* (*i*) food and groceries including 46 articles, 41 of which are items of food, 2 of lighting and 3 of laundry and (*ii*) house-rent. The items included represent about 60 per cent. of the total expenditure of a normal family. The index is weighted according to the quinquennial average annual aggregate expenditure in 30 towns during the period 1906-1910. The basis of the index is 1911 = 1,000.

NEW ZEALAND

The " all groups " index numbers are compiled twice a year (February and August) by the Census and Statistics Office, Wellington, and are published in the Monthly Abstract of Statistics. The index includes three food groups, rent, fuel and light, clothing, drapery and footware, and miscellaneous items and covers 86·55 per cent. of the house-hold expenditure. The remaining 13·45 per cent. miscellaneous items are omitted for want of reliable information. The basis of the index is the weighted average of prices in July 1914 for 25 towns for food and rent and the average for 4 towns for the remaining groups = 1,000. The group weights are based on the average expenditure of household budgets collected by the Labour Department in 1910-11. The weights for individual items are those based on the average annual aggregate consumption or expenditure during the period 1909-1913.

ITALY

The Statistical Offices of the Chief Municipalities construct cost of living indexes for large towns. In the case of Milan the cost of food, fuel and light, clothing, rent and sundries is shown separately for manual and non-manual workers. The group and general index numbers are expressed as percentages of corresponding average costs for the first half of 1914.

BELGIUM

Five sets of cost of living index numbers—four for working classes and one for lower middle class—are compiled monthly by the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare and published in Revue du Travail. Prices are collected in 59 different localities for food (33 items), fuel and light (7 items), clothing (25 items), furnished accommodation (14 items) and miscellaneous commodities (9 items). The working class series are for the four income groups, with intervals of 10 francs, of

fortnightly incomes of below 20 francs to 40 francs and over. The weights used are the average consumption quantities for families in the base period, *i.e.*, 1921.

Another index—the retail prices index—is also published in the Revue du Travail and it includes 56 items, *viz.*, 34 of food, 12 of clothing, 5 of fuel and light and 5 of miscellaneous commodities. The index is unweighted and the base period is April 1914.

NORWAY

The cost of living statistics compiled by the Central Statistical Office cover food, fuel and light, clothing, housing, taxation and miscellaneous items. Price-data are obtained in about 30 towns, monthly for food and fuel and quarterly for the other groups. The index numbers are calculated on the basis of July 1914=100. Weights based on the consumption quantities of a working class family of 5 persons with an annual income of about 1,500 kroner are used, these having been ascertained in 1912-13.

A second series for families of six persons with annual incomes of about 3,000 kroner is also published on the basis of 1914 consumption figures.

SWITZERLAND

The cost of living index constructed by the Federal Labour Office covers food (50 items), fuel and light (9 items) and clothing and linen (25 items). Price-data are obtained in 33 towns monthly for the first two groups and quarterly for clothing. Separate sets of index numbers are compiled for skilled and unskilled manual workers and also for non-manual workers, the weights being based on family consumption in 1920. The base period is June 1914=100.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Office of Census and Statistics publishes every month in the Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics a cost of living index for Europeans and coloured persons living in European style. The price-data are collected in 9 principal towns of the Union for food (20 items), fuel and light (3 items), rent and sundries (including clothing, boots, hardware, etc.). Two series of index numbers on bases 1910 and 1914 are published. The weights are based on the aggregate consumption of various commodities during the years 1917-19.

FRANCE

The cost of living index number for Paris is quarterly and is compiled by the French General Statistical Office. Items of food, rent, clothing, heating, lighting and sundries are included and the index is weighted according to the average annual consumption of a working class family of 4 persons. The base prices are the averages for the year 1914 which are taken as 100.

UNITED STATES

The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes every 6 months in the Monthly Labor Review a cost of living index which includes food (43 items), clothing (54 to 57 items), housing, furniture and furnishings (22 items), fuel and light (6 items) and miscellaneous articles (43 items). The

data for items of "food" and "fuel and lighting" are secured from 51 towns and for clothing, furniture and miscellaneous items from about 32 towns. The basis of the index is 1913 average = 100 and the weights used are the consumption quantities for an average family in the year 1918.

IRISH FREE STATE

The cost of living index number compiled by the Department of Industry and Commerce, Dublin, covers food articles, boots and other clothing, candles, soap and rent. The retail prices are collected in about 200 towns while the data for rent are secured from about 70 towns only. The index is quarterly and has for its basis July 1914 = 100. The weights used are based on the family budget enquiry conducted in 1922.

GERMANY

The Federal Statistical Office publishes in *Wirtschaft und Statistik* a cost of living index which includes food (17 items), heat and light (4 items), clothing (13 items) rent and sundries. The base period is 1913-14 = 100.

POLAND

The Central Statistical Office compiles a cost of living index for Warsaw which covers food, clothing, heating, lighting, rent and sundries. The weights are based on a theoretical budget of a working class family of 4 persons in Warsaw. The base period is 1914 = 100. The prices collected are for the end of the month.

JAVA

The cost of living index of the native peasant population of Java and Madura compiled by the Central Bureau of Statistics, Batavia, covers food (12 items) and fuel and lighting (2 items). The average aggregate expenditure for the period 1920-24 for all food-stuffs, kerosene oil and matches are utilised for fixing the different group weights. The base period is 1913 average = 100.

Another weighted index number relating to the cost of living of a European "normal" family in one of the towns of West Java is also published and it includes 24 food items, sunlight soap, toilet soap, gas petroleum and matches. The basis of this index also is the average for 1913 = 100.

UNITED KINGDOM

It will be seen from the tables on pages 771 and 773 at the end of the *Gazette* that during 1926, the cost of living index number for the United Kingdom (base : July 1914 = 100) declined from 175 in January to 167 in May and then rose steadily to 179 in December. The food group also showed more or less a similar movement, with this difference that the index number was 171 in January, 158 in May and June, and 169 in December. The index number for rent rose by 2 points to 150, but the clothing group decreased from 225 to 215-220 during the 12 months ended December 1926. Fuel and light was the only group which showed a marked increase from 180-185 in January to 250 in December. The following table gives the group index numbers during the year 1926 :—

Index numbers of cost of living in Great Britain for the year 1926

July 1914 = 100

	January	February	March	April	May	June
Food	171	168	165	159	158	158
Rent (including rates) ..	148	148	148	148	149	149
Clothing	225	225	225	220–225	220–225	220–225
Fuel and Light ..	180–185	185	185	185	185	190
Other items included ..	180	180	180	180	180	180
All items	175	173	172	168	167	168

	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food	161	161	162	163	169	169
Rent (including rates) ..	150	150	150	150	150	150
Clothing	220	220	220	220	215–220	215–220
Fuel and Light ..	195	200	210–215	230	255	250
Other items included ..	180	180	180	180	180	180
All Items	170	170	172	174	179	179

CANADA

The weekly cost of a family budget of staple foods, fuel and lighting and rent in terms of the average retail prices in some sixty cities in Canada was $21·96 in January, $21·64 in April, $21·30 in July, $21·14 in October and $21·41 in December. Of this, the cost on account of the 29 food items amounted to $11·63, $11·36, $11·07, $10·93 and $11·18 for the respective months. The corresponding cost in July 1914 was $14·17 for all articles and $7·42 for food articles only. The following table shows the changes in the weekly budget during the year under review :—

Cost per week of a family budget of staple foods, fuel and lighting and rent in terms of the average retail prices in sixty cities in Canada for the year 1926

	January	February	March	April	May	June
	$	$	$	$	$	$
All foods	11·63	11·50	11·46	11·36	11·29	11·06
Fuel and Lighting ..	3·43	3·47	3·41	3·39	3·36	3·34
Rent	6·86	6·86	6·86	6·86	6·85	6·87
Grand Total* ..	21·96	21·87	21·77	21·64	21·54	21·30

	July	August	September	October	November	December
	$	$	$	$	$	$
All Foods	11·07	11·10	10·94	10·93	11·01	11·18
Fuel and Lighting ..	3·32	3·31	3·31	3·31	3·33	3·34
Rent	6·87	6·87	6·85	6·85	6·85	6·85
Grand Toral* ..	21·30	21·32	21·15	21·14	21·24	21·41

[1] Includes the cost of Laundry starch also.

AUSTRALIA

In Australia, the retail food index on base July 1914 = 100 increased from 155 in January to 163 in April and May, declined to 153 in October and was 158 in December. The cost of living index on base 1911 = 1000 was 1748 for the first quarter, 1797 for the second, 1758 for the third and 1749 for the fourth, the corresponding figures for the first three quarters with the 1914 average equated to 100 being 156, 161 and 158 respectively.

NEW ZEALAND

In New Zealand, the Census and Statistics Office all-groups index number on base July 1914 = 1,000 showed very little change during the year being 1,624 in February and 1,633 in August 1926. The decreases in the "food" and "clothing" groups were offset somewhat by the increases in the Rent, Fuel and light and Miscellaneous groups. The changes in the different groups during the twelve months ended August 1926 can be seen from the following table :—

Index numbers of cost of living in New Zealand

July 1914 = 1,000

Group or Item	August 1925	February 1926	August 1926
Food	1,520	1,527	1,492
Rent	1,709	1,742	1,821
Fuel and Light	1,733	1,763	1,770
Clothing, Drapery and Footwear	1,646*	1,573	1,541
Miscellaneous	1,743*	1,688	1,747
All Groups	1,631	1,624	1,633

ITALY

The cost of living index number for Milan, Italy, declined from 665 in January to 642 in April and with some fluctuations reached 657 in December, the highest point (672) being touched in October. The food group also fluctuated between 681 in January and 630 in November. On the whole, both the food and the general index numbers were much higher as compared with the preceding years inspite of the above mentioned tendency towards decline.

BELGIUM

In Belgium, the steady rise in the retail prices index on base April 1914 =100 continued during the year, the general index having increased from 527 in January to 741 in December. The lowest point (521) was, however, reached in March, followed by a rapid rise in the cost of living index. A similar tendency was also noticeable in the retail food index, which, with 1921 prices taken as 100, advanced from 142 in January to 208 in December the minimum being 138 for the month of March,

NORWAY

The cost of living index number in Norway on base July 1914=100 stood at 225 in March and at 218 both in June and in October 1926. The

*July figure.

retail food index, also having the same basis, declined from 216 in January to 184 in December.

SWITZERLAND

In Switzerland, both the retail food and cost of living index numbers did not show any very marked change during the last eight months of the year, these two sets of index numbers being more or less in the proximity of 159 and 161 respectively throughout the period.

SOUTH AFRICA

As in the case of Switzerland, both the retail food and the cost of living index numbers in South Africa on base 1914 100 were practically unchanged at about 118 and 131 respectively in the year under review.

FRANCE

According to the French General Statistical Office, the movement of the cost of living index continued upwards during 1926. Taking the average prices for the year 1914 as equal to 100, the general index increased from 451 in the first quarter to 545 in the fourth quarter. With the exception of rent which remained stationary at 250 since the second quarter and showed but a small rise when compared with the first quarter, all the other groups contributed to the rise in the general index. The retail food index having for its basis July 1914 prices=100 also soared very high and advanced from 480 in January to 628 in November, but was 599 in December. The following table shows the group index numbers for the four quarters in 1926 :—

Index numbers of cost of living in France for the year 1926

(1914=100)

Group	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
Food	473	507	562	574
Heat and Light	447	452	541	577
Rent	220	250	250	250
Clothing	524	577	635	616
Sundries	495	520	620	620
All Groups	451	485	539	545

UNITED STATES

The Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index number on base 1913 average=100 was 174·8 in June and 175·6 in December, thus showing a slight rise in the interval. The change in the fuel and lighting group was noticeable, the index having increased from 180·7 in June to 188·3 in December. Food and miscellaneous items showed a slight rise whilst clothing, housing and furniture declined during the interval. The retail food index on base July 1914=100 fluctuated between 154 in July and 164 in November, the opening index for the year being 161. The index numbers for the different groups included in the cost of living index can be seen from the table below :—

Index numbers of cost of living in the United States of America

(Average for 1913 =100)

Group or Item	December 1925	June 1926	December 1926
Food	165·5	159·7	161·8
Clothing	169·4	168·2	166·7
Housing	167·1	165·4	164·2
Fuel and Light	186·9	180·7	188·3
Furniture	214·3	210·4	207·7
Miscellaneous	203·5	203·3	203·9
All Commodities	177·9	174·8	175·6

IRISH FREE STATE

The Irish Free State cost of living index numbers "being mainly dependent on food prices, usually show regular seasonal changes, decreasing from January to July and increasing from July to January."* The food index number in October 1926 was 10 points lower and the cost of living index one point higher as compared with October 1925 figures, though both the food and the cost of living indexes for the first three quarters were appreciably lower than the corresponding figures in 1925. The two sets of index numbers for the four quarters ended October 1926 and also for October 1925 are given in the table below :—

Index numbers of cost of living in the Irish Free State for the year 1926

(July 1914—100)

	October 1925	January	April	July	October
Food index	188	187	175	174	178
Cost of Living index	188	188	180	182	189

GERMANY

The cost of living index of the Federal Statistical Office in Germany showed a tendency to rise in 1926. The all-groups index rose from 139·8 in January to a maximum of 144·3 in December, the low point (138·3) being reached in March. Food, Clothing and Sundries were above the general average throughout. The table below shows the changes in the group index numbers during 1926 :—

* From page 21 of the November 1926 issue (Vol. II No. 2) of the Irish Trade Journal.

Index numbers of cost of living in Germany for the year 1926

(1913-14 = 100)

Item	January	February	March	April	May	June
Food	143·3	141·8	141·0	141·6	142·3	143·2
Heat and Light ..	142·5	142·7	142·7	141·7	140·4	140·3
Rent	91·1	91·4	91·4	97·4	98·6	99·9
Clothing	171·1	169·3	168·1	167·0	165·2	164·2
Sundries	189·1	188·8	189·0	188·8	188·0	187·5
All items	139·8	138·8	138·3	139·6	139·9	140·5

Item	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food	145·3	145·7	144·9	145·4	148·2	149·6
Heat and Light ..	141·1	141·3	142·8	143·5	144·0	144·3
Rent	104·4	104·9	104·9	104·9	104·9	104·9
Clothing	162·7	160·8	159·6	159·6	158·4	157·5
Sundries	186·8	186·3	185·9	185·1	184·7	184·7
All items	142·4	142·5	142·0	142·2	143·6	144·3

POLAND

The index number of the cost of living in Warsaw recorded a sharp rise during the year, the index being 170·0 in January and 196·9 in December. The food group also registered a marked increase from 191·1 in January to 247·0 in December. The following table shows the changes in the food and general index numbers :—

Index numbers of cost of living in Poland (Warsaw)

(1914 = 100)

—	January	February	March	April	May	June
Food Index	191·1	194·6	188·8	203·9	214·4	213·3
General Index ..	170·0	170·7	168·5	175·6	183·2	182·6

—	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food Index	207·0	213·2	227·1	231·6	243·8	247·0
General Index ..	177·2	181·0	187·6	190·4	195·0	196·9

JAVA

The cost of living index number for the native population of Java and Madura which opened the year with 194 declined during the first five months and after the turning point rose steadily to 171 towards the end

of the year. The cost of living index number for a European normal family recorded a decrease from 164 in January to 158 in July with a slight recovery thereafter, the index number being 162 in December. Both the food and the general index numbers are set out in the table below :—

Index numbers of cost of living of the Native Population of Java and Madura for the year 1926

(1913 = 100)

—	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Food Index	165	195	..	180	172	162
General Index ..	166	194	..	180	172	163

—	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food Index	163	165	169	171	171	172	171
General Index ..	164	166	169	171	171	173	171

Index numbers of cost of living of a European normal family for the year 1926

(1913 = 100)

—	Average for 1925	January	February	March	April	May
Food Index	172	169	172	168	170	169
General Index ..	166	164	166	162	165	164

—	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food Index	167	163	166	166	167	166	168
General Index ..	162	158	160	161	161	160	162

The new Japanese Act on the Conciliation of Labour Disputes

In the February 1927 issue of the *International Labour Review* there appears an interesting article on the above subject. The new Japanese Act on Conciliation has been discussed both historically and analytically and the subject has been treated exhaustively from the point of view of the whole Japanese Labour problem.

It is pointed out that with the introduction of machinery and the capitalistic organization of industry, the number of ' labour disputes ' has also increased. The following table gives the number of strikes (" ca' canny " and others) during the years 1916 to 1925.

Year	Number	Workers involved
1916	108	8,413
1917	398	57,309
1918	417	66,457
1919	497	63,137
1920	282	36,371
1921	246	58,225
1922	250	41,503
1923	270	36,259
1924	333	54,526
1925	292	39,412

The aggregate number of days lost by the disputes was 1,173,177 in 1921, 447,016 in 1922; 421,873 in 1923 and 638,363 in 1924. Only in 1925 did the number fall to 351,055.

The spread of disputes in Japan has not been confined to industry. For many years the question of agricultural tenancy had been growing more acute; the number of disputes on tenancy conditions in agriculrual districts began to assume such serious dimensions towards 1920 that the Government appointed a commission to investigate the agricultural tenancy system. A bill was afterwards presented by the Government to the Extraordinary Session of the Diet in 1924. The Bill was adopted and the Conciliation of Tenancy Disputes Act came into force on 1st December 1924.

The idea of legislation on conciliation in industrial disputes was mooted by the Bureau of Social Affairs, even prior to the enactment of the Conciliation of Tenancy Disputes Act. The Bill was however adopted finally by the 1926 Session (Spring) of the Diet which became the Labour Disputes Conciliation Act and came into operation on 1st July 1926.

The enactment of the Conciliation law has been rendered particularly significant from the point of view of labour legislation in Japan by the repeal, at the date of the coming into force of the Conciliation Act, of all the parts of the Public Peace Police Act which had been alleged by critics to constitute obstacles to the exercise of the workers' right to strike. The repeal of the objectionable parts of the Police Act removes the cause of complaint as to the legal hindrances to strike action and the Conciliation Act places the worker on an equal footing with the employer in disputes.

And this " combined legislation " thus amounts virtually to the workers' rights in disputes.

The scope of the new Conciliation Act is defined in Section I which states that : " If a labour dispute occurs in any of the undertakings specified by the Act the administrative authority may set up a conciliation board in accordance with the request of any of the parties concerned..... If a labour dispute occurs in an undertaking other than those specified in the Act, the administrative authority may set up a conciliation board at the request of both the parties concerned."

A " labour dispute " has been defined by the Bureau of Social Affairs as " a collective dispute concerning conditions of work between workers and their employer or employers." It was necessary to frame such a definition because the word " labour dispute " suggests immediately a strike or a lockout. But there are numerous disputes which do not result in either. Statistics show that in Japan a very large number of cases terminate without giving rise to a strike or a lockout. Such cases are even more numerous than actual strikes or lockouts, and yet, according to the definition of the Bureau of Social Affairs, if a dispute occurs the Act will apply to it equally even if neither strike nor lockout has actually begun.

The Act applies to collective and not to individual disputes. It also does not take cognizance of disputes arising from a difference of opinion on a political issue. A labour dispute within the meaning of the Act must be a dispute between workers and their own employers. A sympathetic strike will therefore not be considered a labour dispute within the meaning of the Act.

The conciliation board is set up specially for each separate case. In this respect it differs from the permanent boards often found in European countries. It also differs from many others in this that its findings are not binding upon the parties concerned. The parties in Japan are free either to accept or to reject the findings of the board which are not in the nature of a " decision " but amount merely to an " opinion," at least in form. The Board is to make enquiries and investigations necessary for the solution of a labour dispute in order to bring about conciliation. It is a public and not a private organ and is set up by the administrative authority for a specific purpose, in compliance with the Act. The setting up of a conciliation board under the Act is either compulsory or voluntary according to the nature of the undertaking in which the dispute occurs. Roughly speaking, the establishment of a conciliation board is compulsory if the dispute is in an undertaking which affects the public welfare ; otherwise it is voluntary.

The board consists of nine members. The parties to the dispute choose six members, each party selecting three, and these six members then select three other members from among persons who have no direct connection with the dispute. Membership of the board has to be confirmed by the administrative authority by formal " appointment."

The method of selection of the members is laid down in Section 4 of the Act. When the administrative authority proposes to set up a conciliation board, it has to notify the fact to the parties concerned. Upon receipt

of this notice, the parties to the dispute must report to the authority within three days, the names of the members of the board whom they have chosen; in default of such report, the administrative authority itself appoints the members in place of the defaulting party. When this procedure is completed, the administrative authority demands the selection of the three neutral members by the six members representing the parties in dispute. Here again in case of failure to select the three neutral members within four days and to report thereon, the administrative authority is empowered to appoint them. As soon as all the members are duly appointed, the board must be immediately convoked and the work must be commenced at once.

The board has a chairman and a vice-chairman. They are selected by the neutral members from among themselves. The quorum of the board is of five members and must include two members representing one party, two members representing the other party and either the chairman or the vice-chairman. The sittings of the board are not open to the public. The board has powers to demand the presence of any person who can give them any required information and has also powers of inspection. The board is required to complete its work within fifteen days after being set up. This period can be extended only with the unanimous approval of the members of the board representing the two parties to the dispute. Upon terminating the conciliation procedure the board must at once submit a report of the proceedings to the administrative authority. Should the board fail to reach a settlement of a given dispute, the report submitted to the administrative authority must show a draft proposal for the conciliation of the dispute which was voted upon by the board, as well as the opinion of the minority on the matter.

The findings of the board are not binding on the parties but the Act requires that the administrative authority "shall publish the gist of the report." The publication of the main points of the report serves in effect as an appeal to public opinion.

With a view to checking the spread of a dispute pending the completion of the conciliation procedure, the Act imposes certain restrictions on persons not directly connected with the dispute. When a dispute occurs in an undertaking affecting public welfare or in the manufacture of munitions, etc., under the management of the Army or the Navy, the restriction begins to apply as soon as the administrative authority has notified the parties in dispute that a conciliation board is to be set up. The acts prohibited are: "to instigate or incite either the employers or the workers concerned in the dispute" in order (1) to cause the employer to close down the work-place, stop the work, terminate the employment of workers, or refuse a request for their continuation in employment in connection with the labour dispute and (2) to cause a body of workers to stop work, impede the progress of work, terminate their employment, or refuse a request for their continuation in employment, in connection with the labour dispute. An infringement of this provision of the Act is punishable either by fine not exceeding 200 yen or by imprisonment not exceeding three months.

It is believed that if the law is effectively applied with tact and fairness it would tend to minimise the losses occasioned by labour disputes and may even actually lessen their number.

Fines in Industry

RESULTS OF LABOUR OFFICE ENQUIRY

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1926, we published full details in connection with the Labour Office enquiry into the question of Deductions made by Employers from Wages or Payments in Respect of Fines. The results of this Enquiry have now been completed and a full Report will be published in due course. In the meanwhile, the Labour Office, has circulated a Summary of the Report with a covering letter to the various interests concerned asking for their views on the several questions raised by the Government of India letter*. The circular letter is published below together with a summary of the Report:

I

The Circular letter:

No.

LABOUR OFFICE,
SECRETARIAT, BOMBAY,
The 14th April 1927.

From—J. F. GENNINGS, ESQ., BAR.-AT-LAW, J. P.,
Director of Information and Labour Intelligence,
(Labour Office), Secretariat, Bombay.

To

SUBJECT.—Deductions from Wages or Payments in respect of Fines.

SIR,

In September of last year I sent you a letter enclosing a copy of a letter from the Government of India and the draft of a Questionnaire on the subject noted above prepared by this office.

The questionnaire and schedule were submitted to you amongst others for criticism before it was issued and both were slightly modified before issue in the light of the criticisms received. I am enclosing a copy of the questionnaire and schedule used for the Textile Industry. These were used with slight variations in minor particulars for factories and other establishments. It was decided to take the first ten months of the year 1926 for the Textile Industry and the year 1925 for all the other groups of factories and establishments to be covered.

In my letter under reference, I also suggested that you might prefer to defer your comment on the Government of India letter, until the Labour Office had made its enquiry and was able to give some definite information regarding the subject of deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines. The enquiry has now been completed and I attach a summary hereto.

The enquiry was designed to cover as many of the industrial wage earners of the Bombay Presidency as possible. Every known factory in the Bombay Presidency was addressed together with all Railway organisations, Government, Local Fund and non-factory establishments, public utility companies, and steam-ship companies. All the Municipalities in the

* See p. 253 of the November 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

Presidency were asked to furnish information. The questionnaire and schedule were also sent to the big shops and stores, hotels, theatres, cinemas, and clubs in so far as lists of these establishments were available. It was also considered desirable to approach offices employing clerical labour such as Banks, Government offices, Railway and public utility administrations, and the larger commercial firms, Solicitors' offices, Insurance Companies, etc. Altogether about 2250 letters were issued and replies were received from about 1300. Almost all the large labour employing organisations furnished information, those who did not being chiefly small factories and gins and presses and small offices employing clerical labour.

The table below gives particulars of the returns received from the different groups :—

	Groups of Establishments covered	Number addressed	Number of Returns
I	Textile Mills—		
	(*a*) In Bombay	83	76
	(*b*) ,, Ahmedabad	63	49
	(*c*) ,, Sholapur and Other Centres	30	19
II	Factories (excluding Textile Mills)—		
	(*a*) Government and Local Fund	54	32
	(*b*) Ordinary Factories	484	277
	(*c*) Gins and Presses	600	400
III	Public Utility Establishments	24	18
IV	Municipalities	157	68
V	Government and Other Non-factory Establishments	25	15
VI	Offices of Steamship Lines	47	12
VII	Offices	350	180
VIII	Miscellaneous Establishments (Shops, Stores, Hotels, Restaurants, Clubs, Theatres, etc.) ..	325	85
Nil	Returns and Returns not received in time ..		75
	Total ..	2,242	1,306

The table below shows the number of establishments among those sending in returns in which fines are stated to be inflicted :—

	Groups of Establishments covered	Number of Returns	Number of Concerns in which fines were inflicted
I	Textile Mills—		
	(*a*) In Bombay	76	76
	(*b*) ,, Ahmedabad	49	49
	(*c*) ,, Sholapur and Other Centres	19	19
II	Factories (excluding Textile Mills)—		
	(*a*) Government and Local Fund	32	23
	(*b*) Ordinary Factories	277	75
	(*c*) Gins and Presses	400	30
III	Public Utility Establishments	18	18
IV	Municipalities	68	57
V	Government and Other Non-factory Establishments	15	11
VI	Offices of Steamship Lines	12	12
VII	Offices	180	48
VIII	Miscellaneous Establishments (Shops, Stores, Hotels, Restaurants, Clubs, Theatres, etc.) ..	85	23
	Total ..	1,231	441

The question of inflicting fines on seamen is adequately governed by the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1923. All fines inflicted on seamen are deducted from wages paid on discharge and are handed over to the Government Shipping Master at the Port of Discharge. Statistics regarding the amounts of such deductions were not available.

It will, I think, be agreed that the enquiry was sufficiently comprehensive and the information received appears to be adequate for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the question under reference.

I enclose a copy of the Government of India letter upon which the enquiry was based, and I should be glad to have your views on this and more particularly upon the following points :—

(*a*) Whether, in your opinion, the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation to deal with it ; and

(*b*) If your reply to (*a*) is in the affirmative, (*i*) in what respects and under what heads do you suggest legislation should be initiated, and (*ii*) what should be the scope of the legislation and the authority who should enforce it ? and

(*c*) If your reply to (*a*) is in the negative do you consider that any other action is desirable ?

The summary attached to this letter gives the information required under different headings in order that criticisms on particular points may be facilitated.

The information given in the summary is closely compressed and the Labour Office proposes to publish, at a later date, a full report covering, in detail, all the points raised in the questionnaire and the schedule.

I should be glad if you could give this matter your very early attention and let me have your reply by May 31st, at latest.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

i/c Labour Office.

II

Summary of the Report :

Deductions from Wages or Payments in Respect of Fines

Summary of the results of the Labour Office Enquiry

SYSTEM OF FINING

The system of making deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines is general in the Textile Industry in all parts of the Bombay Presidency. With regard to factories, the system exists in almost all Government and Local Fund Factories and in the majority of the more organised and larger workshops. It is also associated with Municipalities,

factories and establishments regularly working throughout the year. It does not appear to be the general practice in seasonal establishments such as Gins and Presses. In Offices the system is almost wholly limited to the fining of peons and menials in the establishments where the system exists, although a few cases are reported where clerks were also occasionally fined. Among the classes of concerns included in the group Miscellaneous Establishments fining is general in the larger Hotels, Clubs and Restaurants but is absent in most of the larger commercial organisations such as Shops, Stores, etc.

RULES

All Textile Mills in Bombay City have printed rules and regulations governing conditions of employment, dismissal with or without forfeiture of wages, fines, etc. Only 3 mills in Ahmedabad City reported the existence of such rules. In the mills in the remaining centres of the Bombay Presidency rules are occasionally found to exist. All Municipalities and Government and Local Fund factories have properly drawn up rules which, among other things, lay down the conditions under which fines may be imposed. The infliction of fines is also governed by prescribed rules in Railway Workshops, the larger and the better organised factories, in large Public Utility Companies and in some of the larger non-factory establishments. If the results of the Enquiry as a whole are considered, it would appear that outside the Textile Mills in Bombay and the larger workshops rules setting out the conditions of fining are the exception and not the rule.

DELEGATION OF POWER TO FINE

The object of the insertion of this question in the Questionnaire was to ascertain the extent to which fines could be inflicted in industrial establishments by persons in the position of Foremen, Jobbers, Mukadams, etc. Only one or two Textile Mills in Bombay reported that the power was delegated to Jobbers. In many of the Ahmedabad Mills, this power rests with special employees who are called " Detectors." With the exception of these cases, all the remaining factories and concerns reported that the power to fine rests with the Heads of Departments. In some cases a confirmation is required by the Manager or Superintendent in charge of the whole establishment. In the smaller concerns, the Proprietors who act also as Managers reserve the power to themselves.

THE MANNER IN WHICH THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH FINES ARE INFLICTED ARE MADE KNOWN TO THE EMPLOYEES

With the exception of a few workshops and factories which give employment tickets or check cards with the main rules under which fines are inflicted printed on their reverse, no endeavours appear to have been made to communicate to employees the conditions under which fines are imposed beyond posting the rules, where they exist, in prominent positions. In the majority of cases, the reporting concerns stated that such rules and conditions were known by custom or usage,—the few notable exceptions being the few mills and factories which maintain records of signatures or thumb impressions signifying that the rules have been made known to the signatories.

PRESCRIPTION OF LIMITS WITHIN WHICH FINES MAY BE IMPOSED

With the exception of the Railway Workshops, the larger Public Utility Companies, Municipalities, some of the larger Government and Non-Government factories and Non-Factory establishments, no limits appear to have been prescribed with regard to the extent to which fines may be inflicted.

OFFENCES FOR WHICH FINES ARE INFLICTED

The offences for which fines are inflicted are generally Breaches of Discipline, Insubordination, Disobedience, Bad or Negligent work, Careless or negligent loss of or damage to tools or machinery, etc. In some cases, special lists of further offences connected with the nature of the work undertaken are drawn up. Deductions made from wages in respect of *actual fines* for bad or negligent work do not appear to cover the loss sustained by the employer with regard to the spoilt or damaged article, but appear to be, in most cases, (to quote the Government of India's letter), " *bona fide* fines inflicted as correctives ".

DISPOSAL OF FINES

A few Textile Mills in the Presidency utilise all amounts collected through the infliction of fines for Welfare Work. In almost all departments connected with the larger Railway organisations, fines collections are credited to Special Fines Funds which are utilised for the general well-being of Railway employees. Similar Funds are found to exist in a few Government and Non-Government establishments. In some Clubs and Offices, fines are utilised for giving annual bonuses to employees who do good work. With the exception of these and the few concerns who utilise fines for donations to various charities, the great majority of the establishments covered by this Enquiry appropriate all fines to " Revenue."

SUPPLY OF PARTICULARS REGARDING FINES AND TIME OF INTIMATION

Speaking generally, the employee fined is given full particulars relating to the fine at the time of the occurrence necessitating it. In the case of some Municipalities and a few of the larger workshops, the procedure is more elaborate. The offence for which a fine is intended to be inflicted is put down on a " Charge Sheet " and the worker is asked to record his explanation—a fine being imposed only if the explanation tendered is unsatisfactory. In some cases, appeals against fines inflicted by subordinate officers in the position of Heads of Departments lie to the controlling authority.

DEDUCTIONS MADE FOR SPOILT OR DAMAGED MATERIAL HANDED OVER TO THE WORKERS

Out of the 144 Textile Mills in the Presidency which furnished information on this subject, 84 mills or 58·3 per cent. reported that deductions were made from wages in respect of material spoilt or damaged during manufacture and handed over to the workers concerned. In most cases, the deduction is made at the price at which the article would have been sold had it not been spoilt or damaged and only in a few cases at actual manufacturing cost or at a price intermediate between the cost and the selling value of the undamaged article. This practice is very rare in factories and establishments outside the Textile Industry.

All amounts realised in respect of these deductions are generally credited to the " Sales Account " except in the case of a few mills in Ahmedabad where a certain percentage of such deductions is handed over to detecting folders.

DEDUCTIONS FROM WAGES FOR SUPPLY OF TOOLS AND MATERIALS

Speaking generally, there are few deductions made from wages in the Bombay Presidency on account of charges for supply of tools or materials to workers. In cases where such deductions were reported they appeared to be on account of the supply of special tools to special workers. In the Textile Industry, some mills require weavers to provide themselves with their own reed hooks and combs and in cases where these are supplied by the mill, their cost is recovered in cash or by deductions from the Wages Bill. The conditions governing such deductions, where they exist, are made known to the workers concerned prior to engagement.

EXPERIENCE OF WORKER PREFERRING RESIGNATION TO BEING FINED

A few cases were reported where a worker preferred to resign rather than be fined, but the evidence with regard to this question is overwhelming that workers generally prefer to be fined rather than to forfeit their service instead.

SUSPENSION

The punishment of suspension is general in Municipalities and in Government establishments. A few of the larger workshops inflict no fines at all and only punish offenders by suspending them from work for some days. This form of punishment is also found to exist in Railways, other Public Utility Companies and some of the larger non-factory organisations in addition to a few concerns in all the other groups.

FINES FOR LATENESS AND NON-ATTENDANCE

Speaking generally, some sort of punishment for late attendance is universal except in the case of the majority of the seasonal factories such as Gins and Presses. In some cases employees are not admitted to work after a period of grace has expired. In some others, " pay for work " is the rule ; *i.e.*, employees only receive pay for the actual number of hours worked. But in the majority of cases where late attendance is punished by the infliction of a fine, the fine is either a fixed amount or it is graded according to the number of minutes late.

Non-attendance is similarly punished in various ways. In the mills in Sholapur City, the " double khada " rule is observed—loss of two days' wages for each day's absence without leave. This practice is also followed in various mills and factories in all parts of the Presidency. In some cases, the penalty for continued absence without leave over a number of days (prescribed in most cases), is dismissal with or without forfeiture of wages. In some other cases, absence without leave is punished by set fines. In almost all cases, wages are not given for the days of absence.

REWARDS OR BONUSES FOR BETTER WORK

Out of the 144 reporting Textile Mills in the Presidency, 76 mills or 52·8 per cent. stated that bonuses were given for turning out work better

than specified standards. Several Gins and Presses also reported that such bonuses are granted but in the majority of such cases, these rewards take the form of annual bonuses given on the result of a season's working. Thirty-one ordinary factories reported that such bonuses are given. In establishments which do not follow this practice, better work is rewarded by accelerated promotion. Speaking generally, bonuses for better work are not granted in Railways, Public Utility Companies, Municipalities, Commercial Offices and Government and other Non-factory organisations.

BONUSES FOR REGULAR ATTENDANCE

Bonuses for regular attendance are generally given in the Textile Industry, no fewer than 110 or 76·4 per cent. of the reporting mills stating that such bonuses were granted. Similar bonuses are also given in several factories and other establishments covered in the enquiry.

ADVANCES, INTEREST AND CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Advances against wages due are granted in the majority of instances in all groups of establishments with the exception of Municipalities and Government concerns. Outside the Textile Mills, no interest is charged for advances given except in three factories. The charging of interest is, however, only found to exist to any appreciable extent in the case of the Ahmedabad mills where the rates charged vary from 18 per cent. per annum to 150 per cent. per annum. In many cases, advances are permitted to be granted by privileged pedhiwallas or grain-dealers at similar rates of interest.

The Co-operative Credit Movement has not penetrated to any appreciable extent among industrial workers. Out of 76 reporting mills in Bombay, only 23 mills stated that Co-operative Credit Societies existed. In Ahmedabad no Co-operative Credit Societies were reported as attached to any particular mill. In the mills in other centres, six out of the 19 reporting mills stated that this provision had been made. Outside the Textile Industry, Co-operative Credit Societies only appear to be attached to some of the larger Municipalities, Railway Organisations and other Government factory and non-factory establishments and to a few of the larger non-Government organisations.

Results of the Tabulations from the Schedules

GROUP I—DEDUCTIONS IN RESPECT OF FINES

It is not necessary for the purposes of this Summary to combine the various types of figures returned for the enquiry by different groups of establishments, nor would it be advisable to collate figures for different groups of establishments together, principally on account of the fact that the enquiry for the Textile Industry related to the first ten months of the year 1926 and for the remaining establishments covered the calendar year 1925; Summary tables are given below, separately, (*a*) for Textile Mills and (*b*) all other factories put together for those concerns which gave properly classified data under Group I of the schedule.

The Textile Industry

The following table shows the deductions made in respect of fines under each sub-head under group I together with the numbers of instances in which fines were inflicted in 45 Textile Mills in all parts of the Bombay Presidency employing an average daily number of 90,819 workers, comprising 68,754 men, 20,568 women and 1,497 children, with a total Wages Bill of Rs. 2,63,89,592-14-8. Only 45 mills correctly gave the information in the detailed manner in which it is set out here.

Subject of Deduction	Number of *instances* in which fines were inflicted during the first ten months of the year 1926			Total amount of deductions made in respect of fines		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Fines for—						
(*a*) Breaches of Discipline or Establishment Rules ..	14,782	6,332	44	4,259 3 6	1,161 14 3	11 10 9
(*b*) Bad or negligent work ..	284,951	15,334	11	68,223 6 3	2,585 6 6	1 6 6
(*c*) Loss of and injury or damage to materials, tools, machinery or plant belonging to the employer ..	11,568	1,077	236	4,371 13 6	225 12 0	19 15 0
(*d*) Fines for any other purposes than those enumerated in (*a*), (*b*) or (*c*) ..	6,928	1,911	932	1,432 12 9	185 6 6	115 13 0
Total ..	318,229	24,654	1,223	78,287 4 0	4,158 7 3	148 13 3

An examination of the above table shows that fines for offences connected with bad and negligent work predominated both in the case of men and women operatives, the proportions of instances under this head to the total number of offences for which fines were inflicted being 89·54 per cent. in the case of men and 62·20 per cent. in the case of women. The incidence of fines for bad or negligent work works out to 3 annas and 10 pies for offences committed by men and 2 annas and 8 pies for offences committed by women. This suggests that fines of this nature are, generally, *bona fide* fines inflicted as correctives and not with a view to recompense the employer for damage sustained. An important caveat

to this statement, however, is the fact that in the Textile Industry, nearly 60 per cent. of the reporting mills hand over spoilt or damaged material to the workers concerned and recover the cost—generally at the selling price of the undamaged materials—from the workers' wages. This practice is dealt with in a subsequent paragraph ; but it will be obvious that the real extent of the worker's financial loss depends upon the price he obtains for the article and on that point no information is available.

In the case of children, fines were inflicted in 76·20 per cent. of the instances for reasons other than Breaches of Discipline, Bad or negligent work and Loss of or injury to materials, tools, etc. Fines, in the case of children, are generally for loss of identification tokens. The incidence of fines under this head works out at 2 annas per offence. If all offences are considered together, the incidence of fining works out at 3 annas and 11 pies per offence in the case of men, 2 annas and 8 pies per offence in the case of women and one anna and 11 pies in the case of children. The proportion of total fines to the total Wages Bill for the 45 Textile Mills covered by the statistics contained in the above table works out at ·313 per cent.

Many mills did not give particulars under the separate heads (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) of group I of the schedule but gave combined figures for one or more of the four sections. It has been possible, however, to obtain from these returns figures showing (*a*) the Wages Bill ; (*b*) the numbers of workers employed ; and, (*c*) the total amount of fines inflicted. Grouping these figures, it is found that in the case of 66 Textile Mills in Bombay City employing 146,753 workpeople—comprising 113,506 men, 33,192 women and 55 children,—with a total Wages Bill of Rs. 4,73,83,399-5-3 for the first ten months of the year 1926, the total fines inflicted amounted to Rs. 1,18,707-1-0, or ·25 per cent. of the Wages Bill.

In the 30 mills in Ahmedabad, which supplied similar information, the total amount of fines inflicted was Rs. 1,02,488-3-9, as against a total Wages Bill of Rs. 1,01,66,873-0-9 for 31,396 workers comprising 24,170 men, 6087 women and 1139 children. The proportion of fines to wages in this case amounts to 1·01 per cent.

For 16 mills in Sholapur and Other Centres, employing 26,134 workers, comprising 18,390 men, 5732 women and 2012 children, with a total Wages Bill of Rs. 49,80,528-7-0, the total amount inflicted in fines during the period covered was Rs. 21,268-3-9 or ·43 per cent. of the Wages Bill.

If the above figures are combined for all the Textile Mills in the Bombay Presidency, it is found that in 112 mills employing 204,283 workers comprising 156,066 men, 45,011 women and 3,206 children, with a total Wages Bill of Rs. 6,25,30,800-13-0, the total amount of fines inflicted was Rs. 2,42,463-8-6 or ·39 per cent. of the Wages Bill.

Factories (Excluding Textile Mills only)

The following table presents statistics in respect of 25 factories and workshops employing 25,359 workpeople, comprising 25,031 men, 251 women and 77 children with a total Wages Bill of Rs. 88,17,523-2-1 for

the year 1925 who furnished detailed information under group I (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) :—

Subject of Deduction	Numbers of instances in which fines were inflicted during the year 1925			Total amount of deductions made in respect of fines inflicted.		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
Fines for—				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
(*a*) Breaches of Discipline or establishment rules ..	6,785	..	..	5,274 1 9		
(*b*) Bad or negligent work ..	2,678	1	..	4,434 0 4	1 0 0	
(*c*) Loss of and injury or damage to materials, tools, machinery or plant belonging to the employer ..	1,659	1	20	1,787 14 1	5 0 0	10 0 0
(*d*) Fines for any other purposes than those enumerated in (*a*), (*b*) or (*c*) ..	2,799	..	..	4,437 5 6		
Total ..	13,921	2	20	15,933 5 8	6 0 0	10 0 0

An examination of the above table shows that fines are inflicted in factories for breaches of discipline to a greater extent that for bad or negligent work, the proportion of instances under this head to total instances amounting to 48·74 per cent. Women operatives were only fined in 2 cases—Rs. 5 in one case and Re. 1 in the other. The incidence of fining per offence works out at Rs. 1-2-4 for men, Rs. 3 for women and 8 annas for children, and the proportion of total fines to the total Wages Bill amounts to ·18 per cent.

GROUPS II, III AND IV—OTHER DEDUCTIONS

In view of the fact that the figures returned on account of deductions made from wages under the various other heads included in the schedule were not capable of tabulation in summary form, no attempt has been made to collate the different sets of figures—which will, however, be given in the main report—for the purposes of this summary. Short notes are, however, given with regard to each head of deduction.

DEDUCTIONS FOR MATERIALS, ETC., PROVIDED BY EMPLOYER

The returns under this head were negligible—the general practice appearing to be to make no deductions from wages for the supply of tools, materials, etc., provided by employers.

SUPPLY OF WATER

Deductions under this head are fairly frequent but appear to be confined to charges made in special cases only, *e.g.*, for the wages to be paid to Brahmins for keeping and serving out water to Brahmin employees.

MEDICINES AND MEDICAL ATTENDANCE

Deductions from wages for the supply of medicines and medical attendance appear to be confined to a small percentage of mills in the Textile Industry.

RENT FOR LODGING

Almost all establishments which provide housing for their employees recover rents from the house holders by deductions from their wages. In most cases, as the results of the " Welfare Work " enquiry showed, the rents charged are below economic rent and the deductions made do not show that any employers penalise their workmen in this matter.

SUPPLY OF FOOD

Deductions on this account are mostly for the supply of food grains from the cheap grain shops attached to the establishments concerned. The grain is sold either at cost-price or at a price sufficient to cover overhead charges as well. In the Sholapur Mills, good attendance bonuses take the form of the right to purchase 18 seers of Jowari and 2 seers of Turdal at a price which works out at about 60 per cent. of the actual cost. Factories which produce consumable articles of food, often give their workers the article produced at cost-price and deduct its value from wages earned.

EDUCATION

No deductions of any importance were shown under this head—the few cases reported being amounts collected from the better-paid employees for the school fees of their children in the institutes attached to the organisations concerned.

PROVIDENT FUND

Deductions under this head are generally confined to Government organisations, Public Utility concerns and to the larger non-factory establishments such as the Port Trusts, etc., and in a very few cases to private factories and establishments. These deductions take the form of percentages of the wages earned by contributors who elect to subscribe to the funds concerned.

ACCIDENT COMPENSATION

These deductions were only shown in four cases where employees not covered by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, desired to be protected against accidents.

PROVISION OF CRECHES

No deductions of any kind under this head were shown in any of the schedules returned.

READING ROOM AND LIBRARY

Deductions on this account were returned by establishments mainly connected with Railways for subscriptions from the better-paid employees for the use of the Institutes provided.

INTEREST ON ADVANCES

All the Textile Mills in Bombay and Ahmedabad which charge interest on advances granted to their employees did not furnish figures in the schedules in respect of actual deductions made. The evidence collected, however, goes to show that such deductions are frequently made.

ANY OTHER SERVICES

Deductions shown under this head related, in the case of one or two Textile Mills in Ahmedabad, to the charges made against weavers for employing Beam Carriers, and in some other cases for entertainments, etc., provided by the employer.

COMPULSORY CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHARITY

Although this system does not appear to be practised in the greater majority of cases, a few returns show deductions on this account.

DEDUCTIONS FOR ARTICLES SPOILT OR DAMAGED BY WORKERS DURING MANUFACTURE AND SUBSEQUENTLY MADE OVER TO THE WORKERS CONCERNED

Deductions of this type are almost entirely confined to Textile Mills. In summarising the results of the returns as shown by the questionnaire it was stated that 84 mills or 58·3 per cent. of the reporting mills in the Bombay Presidency adopted this practice. In the 46 mills which gave statistics regarding both the amounts realised for such deductions and the number of instances in which they were effected it was found that these deductions amounted to Rs. 1,60,326-5-4 and were deducted in 50,981 instances. The incidence per deduction works out at Rs. 3-2-4. It is not necessary in this case to compare these figures either with the total Wages Bill or with the total number of workers employed because such deductions are mainly confined to weavers only. Moreover, as indicated in a previous paragraph, the net loss to the worker cannot be determined.

Holidays with Pay for Workers and Collective Agreements

Collective agreements often play an important part in the matter of holidays with pay, by completing national legislation and settling points that have been left open. The last number of the *International Labour Review*, the monthly publication of the International Labour Office, examines the subject matter of collective agreements. It states that while there are countries such as Austria, Finland, Poland, Russia and Czechoslovakia which have a general law on holidays with pay, there are others in which, in spite of the absence of any definite legislation of this kind, the right to holidays is recognised for certain categories of workers.

In Germany, Italy, Sweden and Norway, for instance, the right to paid holidays is generally provided for by collective agreement, while in the Netherlands, Great Britain, Roumania, Denmark and Switzerland a large number of workers do, in fact, have similar rights. At the moment there are, in Europe, about 19 million workers (approximately 40 per cent. of the total workers employed) who are entitled to annual holidays with pay, either in virtue of legislation or through collective agreements. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 10 of 1927.*)

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 99. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) Stock-Taking in Welfare Work, by Gerald B. Lloyd.—The relation of the welfare worker to the management ; the firm's attitude to the welfare department ; the welfare worker's code of conduct ; what does " welfare " stand for ?; the employees' attitude to welfare ; welfare and labour fundamentals ; welfare workers and the community ; welfare and training ; pp. 78-80.

(2) *Food in Staff Canteens, by A. D. Muncaster (Somerville College, Oxford).* pp. 80-84.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 3. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Labour Movement in China, by Ta Chen, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor of Sociology, Tsing Hua College, Peking).*—The awakening of labour ; labour organisations ; national labour conferences ; the movement for labour legislation ; strikes ; the May-day celebrations ; labour's demand for international representation ; conclusion. pp. 339-363.

(2) *The Austrian Works Councils Act in Practice : I., by Dr. Emanuel Adler (Professor in the University of Vienna).*—Opinions on the act and its results ; settlement of disputes by the conciliation boards ; field of application of the act ; changes in the number employed in the works ; the functions of the works council ; pp. 364-378.

(3) *The Science of Farm Labour : Scientific Management and German Agriculture.* pp. 379-413.

(4) *The Trade Union Movement among Salaried Employees.* pp. 414-430.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 2. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *The New German Labour Protection Bill, by Dr. Johannes Feig (Ministerial Councillor in the Federal Ministry of Labour).*—Historical survey ; the basis of revision ; the extent of revision ; fundamental principles of the bill ; contents of the bill : industrial safety, hours of work, protection of women, young persons and children, prohibition of night work in bakeries, Sunday rest, closing of undertakings and shops, labour inspection, date of operation. pp. 175-196.

(2) *Collective Bargaining in the United States of America, by Lindley D. Clark, L.L.M. of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics.*—The background ; the problem ; practical recognition and development ; construction and enforcement : doctrine of usage, doctrine of legal validity ; conclusion. pp. 197-229.

(3) *The Protection of the Workers against Unfair Dismissal in Continental Legislation, by Dr. Erich Molitor (Professor of the University of Leipzig).*—General survey of the problem ; compensation in the French system of law for unjustified dismissal ; the period of notice ; the amount of compensation ; justifiable dismissal. pp. 230-244.

(4) *The Employment of Children in the Production of Cinematograph Films.*—Conditions of employment; regulation of employment. pp. 245-256.

(5) *The New Japanese Act on the Conciliation of Labour Disputes.*—The origin of the act ; the significance of the act ; the scope of the act ; the conciliation board : characteristics, composition, organisation and functions ; the decisions of the board, restrictions imposed by the act ; administrative preparation ; conclusion. pp. 257-271.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 1. JANUARY 1927 (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Third International Conference of Labour Statisticians.*—Methods of family budget enquiries ; statistics of collective agreements ; statistics of industrial disputes ; the classification of industries ; conclusion. pp. 1-17.

(2) *Some Aspects of the Labour Problem in China, by P. Henry.*—The regulation of labour condition ; labour conditions ; future prospects. pp. 24-50.

(3) *Collective Labour Agreements in Italian Agriculture : II.*—The provisions of agreements—the placing of labour, hours of work, work of women and children, the employment of old men, wages ; collective agreements for share-farming ; conclusion. pp. 51-77.

(4) *The Conciliation and Arbitration of Industrial Disputes : III Successful Measures applied in Various Countries.*—Measures for dealing with especial types of disputes—unorganised trades, public utilities, justiciable disputes and disputes of great social and economic importance ; measures for dealing with disputes in general—optional measures, compulsory measures ; wage determination ; conclusion. pp. 78-97.

(5) *Wages and Hours of Work in Italian Industry in 1925.* pp. 98-103.
(6) *The Work of the British Ministry of Labour in 1925.*—Employment and unemployment—juvenile unemployment, training of the unemployed, assistance to ex-service men, migration, relief works; unemployment insurance—long-standing claims to benefit, supervision and enforcement, finance; settlement of industrial disputes; trade boards; wages changes. pp. 98-115.
(7) Dock Labour in Queensland. pp. 115-118.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XXIII, NO. 6. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Prevalence of the 5-Day Week in American Industry.*—Summary; bakeries, building trades, laundries, and printing and publishing; men's clothing industry; iron and steel industry; paper box—board industry; foundries and machine shops; other trades and industries; optional 5-day week; five-day week without reduction in total hours; the 5-day week in summer. pp. 1-10.
(2) *The Municipal Market System of Norfolk, Va.*—Cost and construction of market building; special conveniences of market building; services rendered by market men; regulations of municipal market; variety and prices of produce offered; farmers' markets; prices quoted in farmers' markets; regulations of farmers' markets. pp. 17-27.
(3) *Consumers' Co-operative Congress of 1926.*—Direct leagues and wholesale societies; education in co-operation; uniformity in accounting; relations between the consumers' and the co-operative marketing movements; other matters before the congress; resolutions; pp. 83-87.
(4) *Co-operation in Foreign Countries.*—Austria; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Russia; Sweden pp. 87-90.
(5) *Convention of the American Federation of Labor, 1926.* Company unions; reduction of the hours of labor; education; organization work and allied action; civil service employees; international relations; wages; union-management co-operation; labour banking; employee stock ownership; improvement of Federation's services; Watson-Parker Act; other action of the convention. pp. 91-96.
(6) *Wages and Hours in the English Pottery Industry.*—Agreements; productivity of labor; processes, occupations, and methods of payment; slip house, clay shops; bisque kiln; warehouse dipping; glost kiln; glost warehouse; decorating; decorating kiln; packing. pp. 114-129.
(7) *Wages in the German Pottery Industry.*—Employment; wage adjustments; hours; production and kiln losses; National collective agreement for the German fine ceramic industry, effective February 1, 1926. pp. 129-143.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO 2. FEBRUARY 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *General Review of the Industrial Situation.*—Employers' reports; trade union reports; employment office reports; production in certain industries; external trade; building permits and contracts awarded; strikes and lockouts; prices. pp. 133-138.
(2) *Strikes and Lockouts in Canada and Other Countries, 1926.*—Logging; mining; manufacturing; construction; transportation and public utilities; service. pp. 143-160.
(3) *Annual Report of Labour Department of Quebec.* pp. 161 and 162.
(4) *Legislative Demands of Organized Labour: Proposals Submitted to the Provincial Legislature by Various Labour Organizations.*—Ontario executive, trades and labour congress; Manitoba executive, trades and labour congress; British Columbia executive, trades and labour congress; Quebec executive, trades and labour congress; railway brotherhoods in Quebec; locomotive engineers of Alberta; legislative committee of the railway brotherhoods; railway brotherhoods in Ontario; Alberta civil service association; district 18, united mine workers of America; British Columbia civic employees. pp. 167-172.
(5) *League of Nations International Labour Organization.*—Canada and International affairs; Lead paint protection act in Great Britain; ratification of draft conventions; Japan and the draft convention relating to children's employment. pp. 187-190.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in February was 15. In addition, 13 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 5,700, and the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during February was about 65,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 15,300 workpeople involved and 130,000 days lost in the previous month. The number of workpeople involved in disputes in February was smaller than in any month since December 1914. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1927.*)

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Throughout February there was a continuous and substantial improvement in employment, which affected most of the principal industries. The improvement was most marked in iron mining and quarrying; ship-building and ship-repairing; iron and steel manufacture; general, marine and constructional engineering; the cotton, wool and linen textile industries; the clothing trades; and building and public works contracting. In the industries named, which include 3¾ million insured workpeople, the numbers recorded as unemployed showed at 21st February a decrease of 96,000 as compared with 24th January.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together at 21st February 1927 was 10·9 as compared with 12·1 at 24th January 1927, and 10·4 at 22nd February 1926. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th February 1927 was approximately 1,208,000 of whom 970,000 were men and 172,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 31st January 1927, it was 1,375,000 of whom 1,083,000 were men and 213,000 were women; and at 1st March 1926, it was 1,169,000 of whom 911,000 were men and 194,000 were women. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, March 1927.*)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

By letter of 23rd February 1927, the German Federal Government informed the International Labour Office that it had submitted to the Provisional Economic Council and to the Reichsrat a Bill for the ratification of the Washington *Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth*, together with a Bill for the purpose of bringing German legislation into harmony with the Convention. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 14, 1927.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MARCH 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. The Bhagirath Ramchandra Cloth Mill, Jalgaon, East Khandesh.	150	..	28 Feb.	3 Mar.	Reduction of 50 per cent. in dearness allowance.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills, DeLisle Road, Bombay.	275	..	28 Feb.	12 Mar.	Demand for higher wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Bhagirath Ramchandra Cloth Mill, Jalgaon, East Khandesh.	388	..	7 Mar.	14 Mar.	Protest against reduction of compensation allowance.	The strike ended in a compromise.
4. The Jacob Sassoon Mill, Suparibag Road, Bombay.	24	..	9 Mar.	11 Mar.	Demand for reinstatement of dismissed operatives.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
5. The Bomanji Petit Mill, Clerk Road, Jacob Circle, Bombay.	50	..	9 Mar.	14 Mar.	Refusal to promote a spinner to the post of a jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The Madhavji Dharamsi Mill, Foras Road, Bombay.	506	..	10 Mar.	14 Mar.	Demand for reinstatement of dismissed line jobbers.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
7. The Shri Ambika Mills, Ltd., Kankaria, Ahmedabad.	128	..	30 Mar.	..	Sympathy with a dismissed Jobber and protest against the system of giving damaged cloth in lieu of wages.	No settlement reported.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of February			11 months ended February		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. „ ..	5,813	6,961	6,316	62,958	59,369	76,156
Nos. 11 to 20 .. „ ..	20,223	18,433	18,345	206,404	178,428	207,250
Nos. 21 to 30 .. „ ..	12,549	12,856	14,699	146,018	125,804	156,418
Nos. 31 to 40 .. „ ..	960	1,395	1,469	13,070	12,058	18,055
Above 40 .. „ ..	419	594	861	5,281	4,776	9,702
Waste, etc. .. „ ..	9	84	106	115	535	1,158
Total ..	39,973	40,323	41,796	433,846	380,970	468,739

BOMBAY CITY

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. „ ..	5,237	6,236	5,527	55,833	50,695	67,155
Nos. 11 to 20 .. „ ..	14,350	12,536	12,212	142,458	104,486	140,545
Nos. 21 to 30 .. „ ..	7,959	7,924	9,041	90,664	70,255	94,807
Nos. 31 to 40 .. „ ..	522	631	718	7,465	5,229	8,437
Above 40 .. „ ..	268	284	387	2,971	2,269	3,852
Waste, etc. .. „ ..	1	80	97	29	446	1,054
Total ..	28,337	27,691	27,982	299,360	233,380	315,850

AHMEDABAD

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. „ ..	157	211	192	2,202	2,804	2,369
Nos. 11 to 20 .. „ ..	3,053	3,383	3,606	33,976	41,256	36,522
Nos. 21 to 30 .. „ ..	3,608	3,713	4,293	42,117	42,684	45,532
Nos. 31 to 40 .. „ ..	346	583	569	4,519	5,119	7,651
Above 40 .. „ ..	98	243	356	1,476	1,821	4,452
Waste, etc. .. „ ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,262	8,133	9,016	84,290	93,684	96,526

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of February			11 months ended February		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	917	1,129	1,356	14,376	12,505	20,258
Chudders „ ..	864	1,129	935	14,655	15,533	16,157
Dhoties „ ..	5,663	8,692	7,319	65,391	73,532	82,682
Drills and jeans „ ..	1,275	1,673	1,411	11,056	9,386	12,024
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	27	32	31	555	504	329
Printers „ ..	309	272	202	3,823	2,613	1,852
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	7,668	9,883	8,588	89,924	88,535	99,888
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	923	1,124	1,643	10,990	11,015	15,465
Tent cloth „ ..	154	112	67	1,976	1,447	1.252
Other sorts „ ..	541	612	609	5,833	5,533	4,997
Total „ ..	18,341	24,658	22,161	218,579	220,603	254,904
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	7,086	9,336	10,944	94,298	86,157	111,178
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	129	212	201	1,716	2,245	2,453
Hosiery „ ..	15	20	29	175	227	247
Miscellaneous „ ..	85	72	245	1,577	1,543	2,655
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	20	82	149	119	565	1,782
Grand Total „ ..	25,676	34,380	33,729	316,464	311,340	373,219

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	690	884	1,103	10,037	8,989	17,621
Chudders „ ..	430	619	597	9,067	9,756	11,073
Dhotis „ ..	1,587	2,217	2,390	19,148	19,700	25,879
Drills and jeans „ ..	1,162	1,454	1,294	9,965	7,874	10,987
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	18	4	10	427	214	60
Printers „ ..	..	..	..	33	19	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	5,521	6,935	6,855	64,157	62,122	77,242
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	721	778	1,342	8,811	7,499	11,200
Tent cloth „ ..	107	90	63	835	892	1,071
Other sorts „ ..	264	277	367	2,588	2,299	2,836
Total „ ..	10,500	13,258	14,021	125,068	119,364	157,969
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	4,941	5,932	7,491	72,547	58,194	79,394
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods „ ..	127	205	198	1,654	2,146	2,364
Hosiery „ ..	7	8	6	85	70	60
Miscellaneous „ ..	63	67	204	1,271	1,223	2,164
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	19	56	105	99	440	1,239
Grand Total „ ..	15,657	19,526	22,025	200,724	181,437	243,190

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—contd.

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of February			11 months ended February		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	134	84	47	3,101	1,071	732
Chudders „ ..	344	416	273	4,331	4,501	3,949
Dhotis „ ..	3,025	5,478	4,071	36,162	42,780	46,497
Drills and jeans „ ..	23	141	41	243	633	285
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	8	26	20	110	214	263
Printers „ ..	164	164	95	2,624	1,714	948
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,682	2,380	1,307	20,797	20,901	16,846
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings „ ..	176	282	220	1,970	3,101	3,342
Tent cloth „ ..	42	16	3	1,042	469	21
Other sorts „ ..	174	229	169	2,113	2,248	1,240
Total „ ..	5,772	9,216	6,246	72,493	77,632	74,123
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	1,364	2,303	2,314	12,419	17,858	20,283
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	1	1	1	8	11	17
Hosiery „ ..	8	13	22	90	156	185
Miscellaneous „ ..	21	4	38	256	272	438
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	..	26	43	8	115	528
Grand Total „ ..	7,166	11,563	8,664	85,274	96,044	95,574

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	Mar. 1926	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927	July 1914	Mar. 1926	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 4 11	6 3 1	6 4 11	100	134	132	134
Wheat	Delhi No. I ..	Cwt.	5 9 6		7 12 0	7 12 0	100	..	139	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	75 8 0	87 8 0	91 0 0	100	168	194	202
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	65 0 0	57 0 0	54 8 0	100	163	143	136
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 7 1 (1)	4 5 5 (1)	100	131	141	137
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 3 9	4 7 1	4 7 1	100	129	135	135
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 4 8	5 4 8	4 15 7	100	161	161	152
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	148	149	148
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 12 2	5 3 0	4 13 11	100	112	123	115
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	6 14 1	8 7 5	8 7 5	100	122	150	150
Index No.—Pulses ..							100	117	137	133
Index No.—Food grains ..							100	140	146	144
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	15 8 0			100	169	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	15 6 0	17 6 0	17 0 0	100	151	171	167
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	9 4 0	8 7 0	8 2 7	100	117	107	103
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	146	139	135
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	8 2 7	8 13 6	8 11 4	100	146	159	156
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	80 0 0	74 4 7	74 4 7	100	175	163	163
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 0 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	136	128	128
Index No.—Other food ..							100	152	150	149
Index No.—All Food ..							100	144	146	144
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 5 0	10 15 0	10 10 0	100	116	123	119
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	10 7 0	11 1 0	11 2 0	100	130	138	139
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	13 2 0	17 8 0	17 8 0	100	121	161	161
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	15 10 0	17 0 0	17 12 0	100	139	151	158
Index No.—Oilseeds ..							100	127	143	144

Textiles—Cotton—											
(a) Cotton, raw—											
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	367 0 0		307 0 0	100	146		122	
Oomra	Do.	"	222 0 0	332 0 0	269 0 0 (2)	291 0 0 (2)	100	150	121	131	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0				100				
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	298 0 0	259 0 0	283 0 0	100	145	126	138	
Bengal	Do	"	198 0 0	268 0 0	254 0 0	274 0 0	100	135	128	138	
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	144	125	132	
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 1 6	1 1 6	100	149	137	137	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	10 0 0	8 14 0	8 14 0	100	168	149	149	
White mulls	6,000	"	4 3 0	9 10 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	230	215	215	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	20 12 0	18 8 0	18 8 0	100	200	178	178	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 3	0 14 9	0 14 9	100	192	155	155	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 1 0	0 13 6	0 13 6	100	179	142	142	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	186	163	163	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	169	150	151	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 11 6	6 0 3	6 0 9	100	130	117	117	
Do.	Mathow Lan	"	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 8 1	4 7 0	100	160	153	151	
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	145	135	134	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 10 4	1 8 7	1 8 2	100	142	133	131	
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 15 5	0 12 0	0 13 7	100	89	70	79	
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 10 1	2 8 8	2 8 3	100	2 0	203	201	
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	147	135	137	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 8 0	58 0 0	58 8 0	100	97	96	97	
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169	
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	10 0 0	10 2 0	10 2 0	100	129	131	131	
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	14 6 0	13 8 0	13 5 0	100	160	150	148	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	21 8 0	20 8 0	100	194	246	234	
Index No.—Metals							100	151	158	156	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	22 10 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	153	142	142	
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	20 10 9	25 3 8	26 10 4	100	105	128	135	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	170	175	175	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles							100	153	159	161	
Index No.—Food							100	144	146	144	
Index No.—Non-food							100	154	149	149	
General Index No.							100	150	148	148	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality. (2) Quotation for Oomra, Fine.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Mar. 1926	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927	July 1914	Mar. 1926	Feb. 1927	Mar. 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—				(1)	(3)	(3)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 4 0	60 4 0	60 4 0	100	154	154	154
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red	,,	31 8 0	48 8 0	44 0 0	42 0 0	100	154	140	133
,, red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	,,	31 4 0	47 8 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	152	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt	,,	32 8 0	50 0 0	45 6 0	43 4 0	100	154	140	133
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt	,,	32 4 0	49 0 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	152	127	127
Jowari	Export quality	,,	25 8 0	41 8 0	37 0 0	37 0 0	100	163	145	145
Barley	3% dirt	,,	26 8 0	31 0 0	36 0 0	34 8 0	100	117	136	130
Index No.—Cereals						..	100	149	138	136
Pulses—					(2)	(2)				
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	38 0 0	43 8 0	40 0 0	100	129	147	136
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt	9 2 0		16 3 0	15 4 0	100	..	177	167
,,	,, brown	,,	8 1 6	15 0 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	100	185	185	179
Index No.—Sugar						..	100	185	181	173
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 12 0	1 11 0	100	78	82	79
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 5 0	4 5 0	3 12 0	100	123	160	139
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0			..	100	..	..	..
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	,,	62 0 0	91 8 0	98 0 0	99 0 0	100	148	158	160
Index No.—Oilseeds						..	100	136	159	150
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	58 0 0	52 4 0	52 8 0	100	152	137	137

MOR 1—7

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	29 5 0	29 4 0	29 6 0	100	145	144	145
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	19 15 0	14 12 0	14 0 0	100	195	144	137
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	„	10 2 0	21 0 0	17 4 0	17 8 0	100	207	170	173
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..						..	100	201	157	155
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..						..	100	182	153	152
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	36 0 0	35 8 0	34 8 0	100	129	127	123
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 0 0	14 12 0	14 8 0	100	61	69	68
„ „	Punjab ..	„	21 4 0	13 0 0	14 12 0	14 8 0	100	61	69	68
Index No.—Hides ..						..	100	61	69	68
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 8 0	58 0 0	58 0 0	100	100	96	96
Steel Bars		„	3 14 0	6 4 0	6 0 0	6 2 0	100	161	155	158
„ Plates		„	4 6 0	6 2 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	140	154	154
Index No.—Metals ..						..	100	134	135	136
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	21 0 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	131	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
„	Elephant „ ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	165	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles						..	100	160	165	165
Index No.—Food ..						..	100	144	142	137
Index No.—Non-food ..						..	100	140	139	137
General Index No. ..						..	100	142	140	137

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No. non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
March ..	123	*84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	181
1925														
*March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a)154	(a)150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148
March ..	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	163	134	137	156	161	149	148

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous.	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 „	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117	119	103		105 (m)
1916 „	108	148	102	115	117	116		146	140	106		118
1917 „	118	180	130	116	128	146	...	190	180	114		142
1918 „	149	203	146	118	144	197		253	229	118		174
1919 „	186	208	155	132	157	205		275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 „	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 „	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 „	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 „	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 „	157	170	144	(a) 149	(l) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173 (m)
1925 „	157	173	146			598	509	.. .	169	133		
„ October	153	176	149			643	533		165	132		
„ November	153	176	152		...	643	534		165	131		
„ December	155	177	154	156		649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155			665	527		167	131		
„ February	154	173	154		162	661	526		165	131		
„ March	155	172	154	156		654	521	225		131	451	
„ April	153	168	153			642	529			131		
„ May	153	167	152			652	558		160	132		
„ June	155	168	150	161		650	579	218	162	131	485	175
„ July	157	170	150			649	637		162	130		
„ August	155	170	150		163	652	681		161	130		
„ September	155	172	149	158		657	684		161	130	539	
„ October	155	174	148			672	705	218	161	131		
„ November	154	179	150			657	730	...	161	131		
„ December	156	179	151			657	741	213	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152		...	655	755	.. .	160	130		
„ February	155	172	151		162		770		. ..			
„ March	155	171										
„ April	153											

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100 (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 „ ..	100	96			106	(e) 100		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 „ ..		97			147	102		140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 „ ..		117			138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 „ ..		149			153	169		262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 „ ..	236	196			178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 „ ..	222	236			189	226		356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 „ ..	216	259	152		228	299	307	509	292	(a) 377	347	244	226
1921 „ ..	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 „ ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 „ ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 „ ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 „ ..	163	202	159	170	170	152	159	550	155	251	157	160	159
„ April ..	165	202	159	175	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157	156
„ May ..	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
„ June ..	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
„ July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
„ August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
„ September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
„ October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
„ November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
„ December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
„ February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
„ March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
„ April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
„ May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
„ June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
„ July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
„ August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
„ September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
„ October ..	147	174	171	(b) 161	162	129	152	751	143	188	142	151	150
„ November ..	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	130	152	684	147	182	142	152	148
„ December ..	146	170	172	159	162	130	146	627	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January ..	146	170	173	159		126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
„ February ..	148		172	159			143		144		140	150	146
„ March ..	148		175								139		

*July 1914=100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914=100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c)100	(d)..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 ,, ...	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	.	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 ,, ...	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 ,, ...	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 ,, ...	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,, ...	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,, ...	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,, ...	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,, ...	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e) 184	157
1923 ,, ...	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f)49b	105	968	136	218	160	(e) 188	166
1924 ,, ...	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e) 200	170
1925 ,, ...	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1 107	152	260	169	..	167
,, September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	.	228	166	..	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	177	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(f)175	216	162	..	167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	..
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	..
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052	..	194	157	159	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	..	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	149	.	587	660	193	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
,, September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
,, October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091	.	191	157	..	160
,, November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
,, December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	208	1,081	..	184	157	156	159
1927 January	155	167	153	116	..	148	156	592	625	208	1,063	..	180	156	..	158
,, February	152	164	151	..	..	146	..	585	..	..	..	..	177	153	..	..
,, March	152	162	..	..	..	146	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, April	151	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Feb. 1927	Karachi Feb. 1927	Ahmedabad Feb. 1927	Sholapur Feb. 1927	Poona Feb. 1927	Bombay Mar. 1927	Karachi Mar. 1927	Ahmedabad Mar. 1927	Sholapur Mar. 1927	Poona Mar. 1927
Cereals—		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p.	Rs a p	Rs. a. p	Rs a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rice	Maund	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	7 11 1 *133*	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	7 11 1 *133*
Wheat	,,	7 9 7 *136*	6 3 5 *148*	6 15 4 *148*	6 12 6 *131*	8 1 11 *151*	7 10 11 *137*	6 3 5 *148*	7 4 4 *154*	7 1 0 *137*	8 6 5 *156*
Jowari	,,	5 15 3 *137*	4 9 2 *126*	5 1 3 *133*	4 1 2 *142*	5 8 11 *162*	5 12 6 *133*	4 11 4 *130*	5 5 4 *140*	4 4 2 *148*	5 3 10 *153*
Bajri	,,	5 12 4 *134*	5 8 3 *131*	6 2 6 *131*	4 3 7 *120*	6 1 11 *149*	5 14 10 *137*	5 7 6 *130*	6 2 6 *131*	4 5 2 *123*	5 9 10 *137*
Index No.—Cereals		*135*	*131*	*136*	*138*	*149*	*135*	*132*	*139*	*142*	*145*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 10 11 *155*	5 11 5 *150*	5 11 5 *143*	5 4 11 *124*	5 13 11 *121*	6 15 1 *161*	5 14 10 *156*	5 5 4 *133*	5 10 2 *131*	6 3 5 *128*
Turdal	,,	8 13 2 *151*	9 4 5 *139*	8 14 3 *144*	8 5 0 *142*	10 2 6 *154*	8 14 6 *152*	10 0 0 *150*	8 14 3 *144*	8 7 10 *145*	9 2 8 *139*
Index No.—Pulses		*153*	*145*	*144*	*133*	*138*	*157*	*153*	*139*	*138*	*134*

Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	14 4 7 *187*	12 12 10 *176*	13 14 7 *174*	14 8 9 *145*	14 0 7 *150*	14 4 7 *187*	12 8 9 *173*	13 7 7 *168*	14 8 9 *145*	14 0 7 *150*
Jagri (gul)	"	14 4 7 *167*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	10 0 0 *129*	8 6 9 *120*	13 11 1 *160*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	9 2 3 *118*	8 0 4 *114*
Tea	Lb.	0 15 2 *194*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 3 *196*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*
Salt	Maund	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 5 9 *151*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 5 9 *151*	2 13 5 *151*
Beef	Seer	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 5 *74*	0 5 0 *201*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 0 *155*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 1 *68*	0 4 6 *180*	0 6 0 *141*
Mutton	"	0 13 4 *200*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 9 6 *158*	0 13 0 *195*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 9 0 *150*	0 9 0 *150*
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 *191*	8 1 7 *182*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*
Ghee	"	94 0 9 *185*	69 9 0 *163*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	66 10 8 *129*	94 10 3 *186*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	66 10 8 *129*
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 *159*	4 0 5 *74*	4 5 2 *114*	6 2 6 *154*	5 4 2 *156*	7 2 3 *159*	4 11 4 *87*	3 6 6 *89*	6 10 8 *167*	5 4 2 *156*
Onions	"	5 15 3 *384*	5 7 6 *301*	5 0 0 *250*	5 0 0 *200*	3 8 2 *175*	5 5 9 *345*	4 8 1 *248*	5 0 0 *250*	4 7 1 *178*	3 8 2 *175*
Cocoanut oil	"	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*
Index No.—Other articles of food	..	*190*	*172*	*162*	*159*	*147*	*186*	*167*	*158*	*154*	*145*
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*173*	*159*	*153*	*151*	*146*	*170*	*157*	*151*	*149*	*144*

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September ..	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, MAY, 1927 [No. 9

The Month in Brief

INDIAN TRADE UNIONS ACT

The following notification has been issued by the Government of India :—

" In pursuance of sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (XVI of 1926), the Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint the 1st June 1927 as the date on which the said Act shall come into force."

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of April 1927. The average absenteeism was 8·91 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·47 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0·63 per cent. for Viramgaum, 14·73 per cent. for Sholapur and 8·35 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 16·34 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 12·55 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·90 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 8·40.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In May 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 152 as against 153 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 150.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 144 for the month of April 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were four industrial disputes in progress during April 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 1738 and the number of working days lost 3298.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During April 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities in favour of India amounted to Rs. 17 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for May 1927

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **52 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **50 per cent.**

In May 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was one point lower than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 153 in April and 152 in May 1927. The general index is thus 41 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and three points lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles declined by one point during the month. A fall of two points each in rice and jowari was nearly counterbalanced by a rise of 4 points in wheat and the index number for cereals remained the same. Pulses, however, went up by one point owing to the decrease of 2 points in gram being offset by a rise of 6 points in turdal. Among other food articles, sugar (refined) and gul declined by 7 points each. Tea, beef and potatoes advanced by 7, 3 and 13 points respectively; but salt was lower by 5 points, mutton by 7 points and ghee by 6 points. Onions recorded a further fall of 77 points. The "other food" index number was 176 as against 178 in the preceding month.

The "fuel and lighting" index remained stationary at 166. The clothing group advanced by 4 points to 147 owing to an increase in the price of chudders and T cloths.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	53
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	52
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November .	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between April 16 and May 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—MAY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	April 1927	May 1927	July 1914	April 1927	May 1927
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·469	7·391	391·58	522·83	517·37
Wheat	"	21	5·594	7·271	7·516	117·47	152·69	157·84
Jowari	"	11	4·354	5·698	5·615	47·89	62 68	61·77
Bajri	"	6	4·313	5·771	5·771	25·88	34·63	34·63
Total—Cereals						582·82	772·83	771·61
Index Numbers—Cereals						*100*	*133*	*133*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·682	6·599	43·02	66·82	65·99
Turdal	"	3	5·844	8·662	8·990	17·53	25·99	26·97
Total—Pulses						60·55	92·81	92·96
Index Numbers—Pulses						*100*	*153*	*154*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	14·287	13·693	15·24	28·57	27·39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	8·557	13·693	13·094	59·90	95·85	91·66
Tea	"	1/8	40·000	77·349	79·917	1·00	1·93	2·00
Salt	"	5	2·130	3·313	3·219	10·65	16·57	16·10
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·500	0·510	9·04	14·00	14·28
Mutton	"	33	0·417	0·844	0·813	13·76	27·85	26·83
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	"	1½	50·792	97·026	94·047	76·19	145·54	141·07
Potatoes	"	11	4·479	6·547	7·141	49·27	72·02	78·55
Onions	"	3	1·552	4·760	3·573	4·66	14·28	10·72
Cocoanut Oil	"	½	25·396	28·573	28·573	12·70	14·29	14·29
Total—Other food articles						381·18	677·06	669·05
Index Numbers—Other food articles						*100*	*178*	*176*
Total—All food articles						1,024·55	1,542·70	1,533·62
Index Numbers—All food articles						*100*	*151*	*150*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61 49
Coal	"	1	0·542	0·771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60·44	100·54	100 54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·844	0·859	16·04	22·79	23·19
Shirtings	"	25	0·641	0·969	0·969	16·03	24·23	24·23
T. Cloths	"	36	0·583	0·797	0·844	20·99	28·69	30·38
Total—Clothing						53·06	75·71	77·80
Index Numbers—Clothing						*100*	*143*	*147*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent						*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total						**1,251·07**	**1,913·35**	**1,906·36**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						**100**	**153**	**152**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in April and May 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

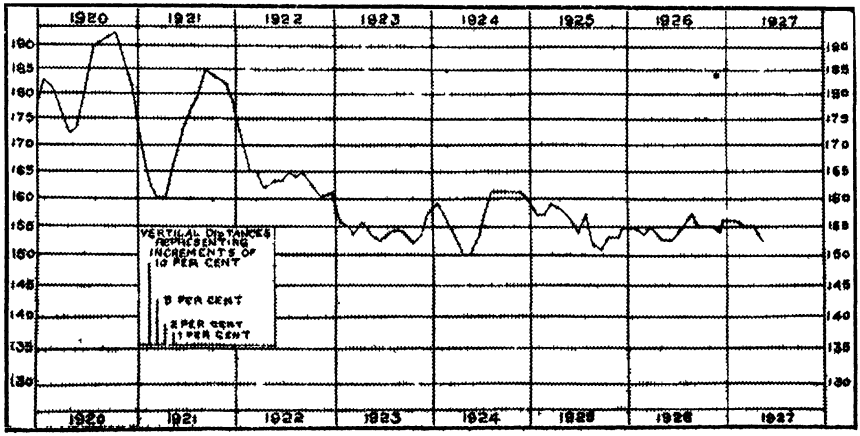
Articles	July 1914	Apr. 1927	May 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in May 1927 over or below Apr. 1927	Articles	July 1914	Apr. 1927	May 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in May 1927 over or below Apr. 1927
Rice ..	100	134	132	—2	Salt ..	100	156	151	— 5
Wheat ..	100	130	134	+4	Beef ..	100	155	158	+ 3
Jowari ..	100	131	129	—2	Mutton ..	100	202	195	— 7
Bajri ..	100	134	134	.	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	155	153	—2	Ghee ..	100	191	185	— 6
Turdal ..	100	148	154	+6	Potatoes ..	100	146	159	+13
Sugar (refined)	100	187	180	—7	Onions ..	100	307	230	—77
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	153	—7	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	193	200	+7	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	151	150	—1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 24, Wheat 25, Jowari 22, Bajri 25, Gram 35, Turdal 35, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 35, Tea 50, Salt 34, Beef 37, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 37, Onions 57, Cocoanut Oil 12.

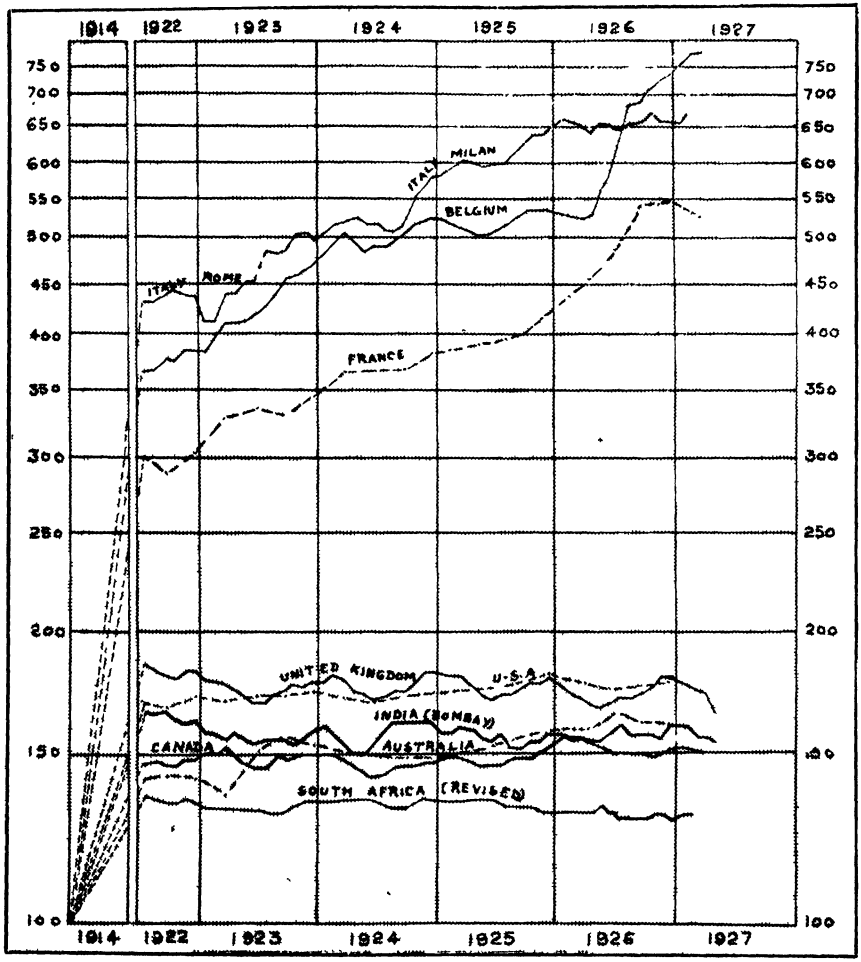
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 6 pies for all items and 10 annas 8 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of four points

In April 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 144 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with March 1927 there was a fall of 5 points in the food group and of 2 points in the non-food group. The general index number was 119 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 5 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains declined by 8 points to 136 due to a fall of 8 points each in Cereals and Pulses. Except in the case of jowari which rose by 4 points, all the other cereals declined in price—rice by 2 points, wheat by 15 points, barley by 3 points and bajri by 10 points. Gram and turdal fell by 5 and 10 points respectively during the month.

A fall of 7 points in refined sugar was partially counterbalanced by a rise of 4 points in gul and the index number for the "sugar" group declined by 1 point to 134. The "other food" index rose by 1 point to 150 owing to a slight rise in the price of turmeric.

Under the non-food group, there was a decrease of 1 point in Oilseeds, of 4 points in Raw cotton, of 2 points in Cotton manufactures, of 7 points in Metals and of 5 points in Other raw and manufactured articles. Other textiles rose by 2 points and Hides and skins by 5 points.

The sub-joined table compares April 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year:—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1926*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with Mar. 1927	+ or − % compared with April 1926	Groups	Apr. 1926	July 1926	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927
1. Cereals ..	7	− 5	− 3	1. Cereals ..	99	100	99	105	101	96
2. Pulses ..	2	− 6	+ 5	2. Pulses ..	94	102	102	106	106	99
3. Sugar ..	3	− 1	−11	3. Sugar ..	100	96	96	99	90	89
4. Other food ..	3	+ 1	− 4	4. Other food ..	103	98	97	93	99	99
All food ..	15	− 3	− 3	All food ..	99	99	99	101	99	96
5. Oilseeds ..	4	− 1	+ 9	5. Oilseeds ..	98	104	99	103	107	107
6. Raw cotton ..	5	− 3	− 7	6. Raw cotton ..	99	103	106	81	94	91
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 1	−12	7. Cotton manufactures ..	104	102	94	88	93	91
8. Other textiles .	2	+ 1	− 5	8. Other textiles	104	95	98	99	98	99
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 4	−17	9. Hides & skins	116	99	99	96	93	96
10. Metals ..	5	− 4	− 1	10. Metals ..	100	99	98	105	103	99
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	− 3	+ 4	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	99	97	100	105	106	103
All non-food ..	29	− 1	− 5	All non-food ..	102	100	98	96	98	97
General Index No.	44	− 3	− 5	General Index No.	101	100	99	98	99	97

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 864.

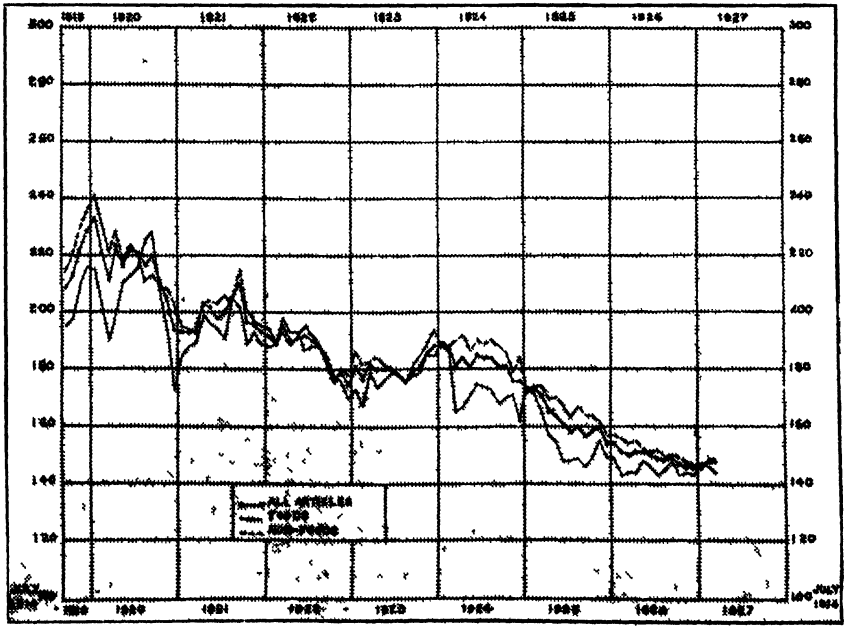
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920 . ..	206	219	216
„ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926	145	152	149
Four-monthly „ 1927	144	148	147

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

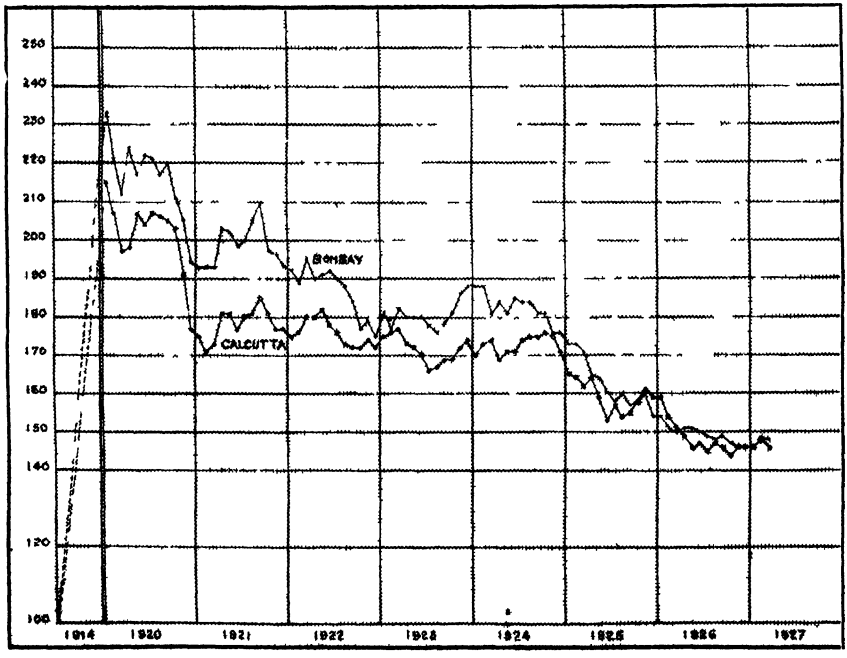


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

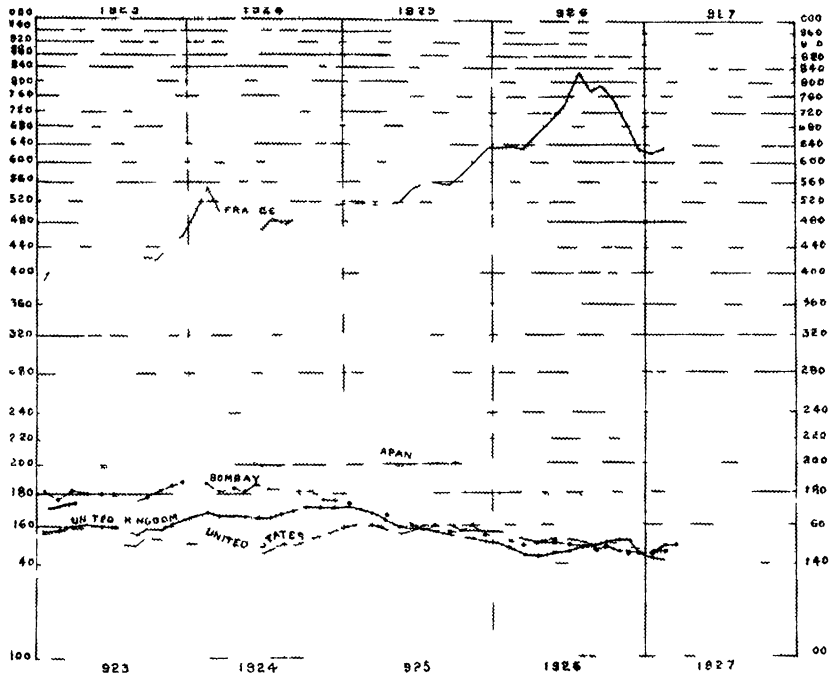
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the *Gazette*. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " *The Statist*."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	Mar. 1927	April 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in April 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	Mar. 1927
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee .	212	5 10	7 11	7 11	+2 1	..
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	„	204	5 10	7 10	7 5	+1 7	—0 5
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	„	196	4 3	5 8	5 7	+1 4	—0 1
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	„	208	4 7	6 2	6 0	+1 5	—0 2
Gram ..	Delhi ..	„	192	4 4	6 8	6 5	+2 1	—0 3
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	„	204	5 11	9 1	8 10	+2 11	—0 3
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	2 0	2 0	+0 11	..
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	„ ..	28	1 2	1 11	1 11	+0 9	..
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb ..	39	7 10	15 3	15 1	+7 3	—0 2
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+1 2	..
Beef ..		Lb. ..	39	2 6	3 11	3 11	+1 5	..
Mutton ..		„ ..	39	3 0	6 4	6 7	+3 7	+0 3
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	„ ..	28	7 1	13 3	13 7	+6 6	+0 4
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	„ .	28	0 8	1 0	0 11	+0 3	—0 1
Onions ..	Nasik ..	„ ..	28	0 3	0 9	0 8	+0 5	—0 1
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	„ ..	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	..

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during April 1927 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains wheat, jowari and bajri declined by 5, 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee while the price of rice showed no change. Gram and turdal fell by 3 pies each per paylee. Amongst other food articles mutton advanced by 3 pies per lb. and ghee by 4 pies per seer. Potatoes and onions recorded a fall of one pie each per seer and tea of 2 pies per lb. The prices of the other articles remained practically unchanged during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914 all articles show considerable increases. Mutton and onions are more than double their prewar prices. Sugar (refined), tea, milk, and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. and potatoes by 38 per cent. The rise in the price of food-grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in March and April 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in March and April 1927 :—

Articles	Bombay prices in March 1927 = 100					Bombay prices in April 1927 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice ..	100	107	107	113	103	100	107	107	107	103
Wheat ..	100	81	95	92	109	100	85	96	102	116
Jowari ..	100	81	92	74	91	100	80	94	70	92
Bajri ..	100	92	104	73	95	100	88	107	74	97
Average—										
Cereals ..	100	90	100	88	100	100	90	101	88	102
Pulses—										
Gram ..	100	85	77	81	90	100	90	75	84	90
Turdal ..	100	112	100	95	103	100	115	103	100	137
Average—										
Pulses ..	100	99	89	88	97	100	103	89	92	114
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined) ..	100	88	94	102	98	100	85	93	97	93
Jagri (Gul).	100	83	83	67	59	100	83	83	60	56
Tea ..	100	102	102	117	108	100	103	103	118	109
Salt ..	100	60	69	101	86	100	60	69	106	83
Beef ..	100	113	51	56	75	100	113	55	44	75
Mutton ..	100	77	77	69	69	100	74	74	59	67
Milk ..	100	43	57	76	76	100	43	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	75	75	75	70	100	73	73	73	77
Potatoes ..	100	66	48	93	74	100	75	51	76	66
Onions ..	100	84	93	83	65	100	65	93	65	57
Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	100	90	112	112	98
Average— Other articles of food ..	100	80	78	86	80	100	79	78	81	78
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**85**	**84**	**87**	**86**	**100**	**84**	**85**	**84**	**88**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles fell by one point at Karachi and by 3 points at Sholapur and advanced by one and two points respectively at Ahmedabad and Poona. Referring back to April 1926 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles is the same for Sholapur but it is lower by 4, 10 and 3 points respectively for Karachi, Ahmedabad and Poona.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice remained stationary except at Sholapur. The relative prices of wheat, turdal and tea showed a rise, those of milk and cocoanut oil were stationary and of sugar and mutton registered a decrease at all the four mofussil centres. Ghee rose at Poona and onions were stationary at Ahmedabad but both fell at the other three centres. Potatoes were higher at Karachi and Ahmedabad. Gram rose at Karachi and Sholapur, was steady at Poona and fell at Ahmedabad. The relative price of bajri was higher except at Karachi where it registered a decrease.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in April .. 4 Workpeople involved .. 1,738

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during April 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute " in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in April 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in April 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in April 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in April 1927
	Started before 1st April	Started in April	Total		
Textile	1	2	3	503	210
Transport					
Engineering ..					
Metal					
Miscellaneous ..		1	1	1,235	3,088
Total ..	1	3	4	1,738	3,298

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was four, three of which occurred in cotton mills. One of the disputes occurred in Ambernath, and the rest in Ahmedabad. The number of workpeople involved in these four disputes was 1738 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 3298.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, December 1926 to April 1927

	December 1926	January 1927	February 1927	March 1927	April 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	2	5	4	7	4
Disputes in progress at beginning	1		1	2	1
Fresh disputes begun	1	5	3	5	3
Disputes ended	2	4	2	6	4
Disputes in progress at end		1	2	1	
Number of workpeople involved	712	4,002	1,177*	1,521	1,738
Aggregate duration in working days	1,251	16,507	775	5,987	3,298
Demands—					
Pay	2	3	4	3	1
Bonus					
Personal		1		4	2
Leave and hours					
Others		1			1
Results—					
In favour of employees	1		1		
Compromised				1	2
In favour of employers	1	4	1	5	2

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, *viz.*, 692, which carried forward from January.

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
May 1926	6	6	4	8,457	100	..	..
June „	9	7	7	1,752	100	..	..
July „	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August „	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October „	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November „	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December „	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February „	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March „	7	5	6	5,987	83	..	17
April „	4	3	4	3,298	50	..	50

† This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work, reported as beginning during the month of April 1927, was 3 as compared with 5 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 1610. In addition, 128 workpeople were involved in a dispute which had begun in March and was still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 4, involving a total number of 1738 workpeople and resulting in a time loss of 3298 working days. Of the 3 disputes beginning in April one arose over a question of wages, another related to the question of employment of particular persons and the third was due to "Other causes." Settlements were arrived at in the case of all the disputes. The results were favourable to the employers in 2 disputes and the remaining 2 were compromised.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY SUBURBAN

The management of the Western India Match Factory, Ambernath, notified their workers on the 14th March that certain alterations and adjustments were proposed to be made in the rates of wages for piece-workers. The workers, however, demanded the continuance of the old rates of wages. On the 8th, 1235 workmen did not resume work after the recess. The management wanted to know the reason for the sudden stoppage of work and 6 representatives of the strikers discussed the matter with the manager in the afternoon on the 11th and arrived at the following terms of settlement of the dispute :—

1. That the strikers should resume work on the 12th ; and
2. That house-rent and water charges charged by the Company should be reduced in view of the reduction in wages.

Accordingly all the strikers resumed work on the 12th. The strike thus ended in a compromise.

AHMEDABAD

Three disputes were in progress in Ahmedabad during the month under review. One of these was a continuation of the dispute which had begun in the previous month in the Shri Ambika Mills. On the 1st, 20 strikers resumed work unconditionally. The management dispensed with the services of the remaining strikers and engaged new hands in their place. This strike ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute occurred in the Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Company. On the 1st, the management dismissed a jobber on account of inefficiency and engaged a new jobber in his place. One hundred and seventy-five operatives refused to work under the new jobber and struck work on the 2nd demanding the reinstatement of the dismissed jobber. The efforts of the local Labour Union to persuade the strikers

to resume work were of no avail. The management employed 30 new hands and informed the strikers that if they did not resume work their outstanding wages would be forfeited and new hands employed in their place. In the afternoon, the management engaged 70 additional new hands. On the 3rd, 25 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the management employed 50 new hands. The strikers met the manager on the 5th and they were asked to come the next day when the manager proposed either to reinstate them or to pay them off. The strikers, however, did not turn up on the 6th as they intended to recover their dues through the Civil Court and the management, therefore, dispensed with their services. The strike thus terminated in favour of the employers.

The third dispute took place in the Gujarat Cotton Mills where 200 weavers suspended work in the morning on the 26th as a protest against the system of giving damaged cloth in lieu of wages. The manager put up a notice stating that the outstanding wages of the strikers would be paid in the evening. After some time the strikers interviewed the manager and he promised to look into their grievances. Consequently 100 strikers resumed work at 10-30 a.m. The remaining strikers also resumed work in the morning of the following day. This dispute ended in a compromise.

Accidents in the Bombay Presidency

STATISTICS FOR MARCH AND APRIL 1927

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

The preliminary statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the months of March and April 1927 in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. During March and April 1927 there were 563 accidents in Bombay City. The injuries caused by these accidents were fatal in 5 cases, serious in 108 cases and minor in 452 cases. One hundred and sixty-nine or 30 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 70·5 per cent. in workshops, 27·7 per cent. in textile mills and 1·8 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

During the months under review there were in all 75 accidents in Ahmedabad, all of which occurred in textile mills. Out of the total number of accidents, 50 were due to machinery in motion and 25 to other causes. One of these accidents proved fatal, 41 caused serious and the rest minor injuries.

In Karachi there were 7 accidents, out of which 6 occurred in railway workshops and 1 in a miscellaneous concern. Out of the total number of accidents 3 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 4 to other causes. Two of these accidents caused serious injuries and the rest minor injuries.

In the other centres of the Presidency there occurred 108 accidents, of which 37 were in textile mills, 59 in workshops and 12 in miscellaneous concerns. Machinery in motion was the cause of 41 accidents while other causes were responsible for the remaining 67 accidents. The injuries caused by these accidents were fatal in 1 case, serious in 34 cases and minor in 73 cases.

The figures shown in the tables for January and February are corrected figures and differ slightly from those published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1927.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, April 1927

WEST KHANDESH

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (*a*) for breach of section 23 (*a*) for employing uncertified children. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of six cases.

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*f*) for breach of section 18 (1) (*c*) read with Rule 36 for not keeping the nip guard on a calender machine in efficient order whereby a person was injured. He was convicted and fined Rs. 75.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during April 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of April 1927. All Commissioners except one furnished information and out of a total number of 37 cases disposed of during the month, 31 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The gross amount of compensation awarded in lump sums during the month amounted to Rs. 18,538-11-2 as against Rs. 26,951-10-3 in the previous month and Rs. 19,625-6-6 in April 1926. Out of the 37 cases in which compensation was claimed 16 were fatal accidents and 21 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 12 and in other industries 25. The corresponding figures for April 1926 were 25 and 20.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the 37 cases was 39, of whom 34 were adult males, 3 adult females and the remaining two were males under 15 years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review 23 were original claims and 14 registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in 23 cases and agreements were registered in 14 cases.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

With reference to the two resolutions passed by the Joint Council of Representatives of the Frame and Throstle Unions on 7th April and which were published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1927, the Labour Union have addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association to give their earnest consideration to these resolutions and to the proposals made for a Labour Exchange and a Joint Committee. It was pointed out that the institutions which were proposed to be created are necessary and desirable and that such institutions exist and have worked satisfactorily in western countries. The Millowners' Association have, however, not arrived at any decision in the matter.

Some mills in Ahmedabad gave a holiday on the day following the "Id" against the wishes of the workers and it is alleged that in some of these mills they were required to work for more than 10 hours on the following days. The workers of these mills passed a resolution to the effect that, in future, the workers should not be given work for more than 10 hours a day under any circumstances. Copies of this resolution were forwarded to the mills concerned.

The Labour Union has received about twenty essays in connection with the competition on the subject "What should be done to increase the membership of the Union." The essays are under examination and two prizes of Rs. 10 and Rs. 5 respectively will shortly be given to the first two best essays.

The Labour Union had decided some time ago to hold at least one meeting every month in each mill. This work is reported to be progressing fairly satisfactorily and altogether about fifteen meetings were held at which lectures were given on the subject "What return do the workmen get for their subscription of four annas to the Union."

The first illustrated number of the *Majur Sandesh* was issued on 18th April.

THE B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

The Agent of the B. B. & C. I. Railway is reported to have given an interview to the President of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association at Bombay on the 27th April. The Agent stated that he was quite willing to recognise the Association when it is registered under the Trade Unions Act which comes into force from the 1st June 1927. The President of the Union showed his willingness to register and in the discussion that followed, several important points of detail were settled. When the Association is recognised, it will have the right to make direct representations to the Railway Authorities on behalf of the members regarding their grievances and the Executive will also have the right to approach District Officers, Heads of Departments and the Agent personally or to send deputations to wait on them in order to discuss various questions affecting the welfare of railway employees. The railway administration are framing draft rules for governing the conduct of business between the Railway Authorities and the Association at such meetings and these rules are to be discussed in a subsequent joint meeting. It was also agreed

at the meeting that the Agent or his nominee will always have access to the register of membership of the Union. It was further decided that the existing right of access of every employee to his superior officers and ultimately to the Agent should not be affected ; but that railway employees, who are members of the Association, can if they so desire, submit their representations through the Association subject to the rules to be framed as stated above. Meetings of the Union will be allowed to be held on railway premises, if suitable places elsewhere are not available provided that the members who are on duty are not interfered with. The railway institutes are, however, not to be used for this purpose.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th May 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

During the period under review there has been no appreciable change in the Agricultural outlook of the Bombay Presidency except that in places in the South Deccan, the whole of the Karnatak and North Kanara, some rainfall has been received chiefly during the third week of April. The situation regarding crops and rainfall in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency as it appears at this moment may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—There was no rainfall anywhere. The harvesting of *rabi* crops such as wheat, barley, etc., is now completed while the preparation of lands for the next season is in full swing. The condition of irrigated crops is generally satisfactory.

Konkan.—Since the submission of the last report there has been practically no rainfall except during last week of April in North Kanara. The preliminary field operations are going on everywhere. The progress of garden crops is satisfactory.

Deccan and Karnatak.—Some light to fair scattered showers were received by about the end of April in the South Deccan and most of the Karnatak and in places in Dharwar in the first week of May. The harvesting of *rabi* crops was finished everywhere and their threshing was nearing completion. The preparation of lands for the coming season was in full swing. The irrigated crops were generally doing well.

Employment Situation in April 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 118 or 78·67 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of April 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 8·58 per cent. as against 8·11 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City all the 80 mills which were working during the month furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a

large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 8·91 per cent. as compared with 9·05 per cent. during March.

In Ahmedabad 59 mills were working during the month and 28 or 47·46 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 2·47 per cent. as against 1·83 per cent. in March. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

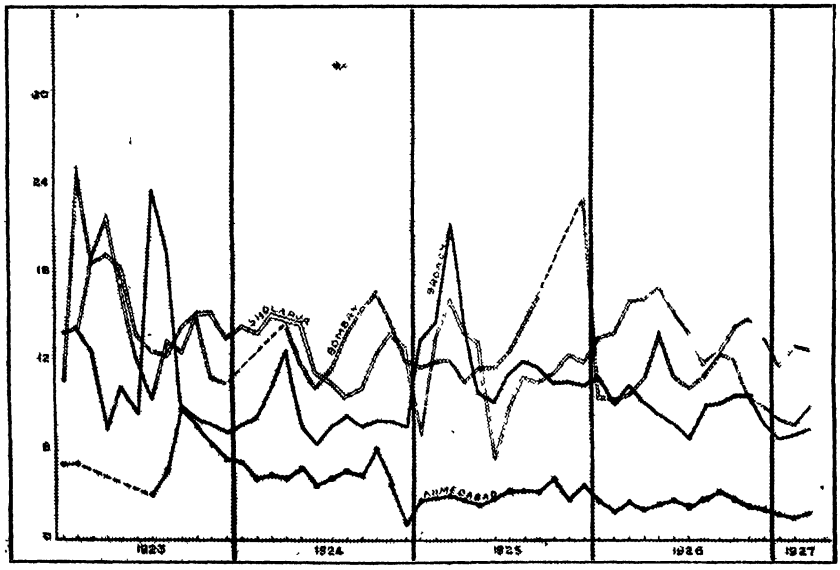
Returns were submitted by 5 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 14·73.

Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 0·63 per cent.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism was 8·35 per cent. as against 7·48 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 16·34 per cent. as against 14·50 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 12·55 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 8·90 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 8·40 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Factory Legislation in China

REGULATIONS FOR THE PROVINCE OF HOO-PEI

With a view to settling disputes between capital and labour, the Political Committee of the Kuomingtang Government for the Province of Hoo-Pei has drawn up factory regulations, the main points of which we give below.

SCOPE

The Regulations are applicable to all factories in the province of Hoo-Pei which employ more than twenty workers, or which are in any way dangerous or unhealthy.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS

Employers are required to recognise the right of the workers to conclude collective agreements with them.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Employers are forbidden to employ children under 12 years of age.

Employers are forbidden to give night work (between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m.) to children under 15 years of age, or to women. As regards women, however, these provisions will not enter into force until four months after the promulgation of the Regulations.

Employers are forbidden to employ women or children in dangerous or unhealthy work, which is described as follows :—

DANGEROUS WORK

(*a*) The starting and stopping of electric machines or other machines productive of motive power ;
(*b*) Greasing ;
(*c*) Work on belts and pulleys ;
(*d*) Handling of explosives ;
(*e*) Building work carried on above ground level.

UNHEALTHY WORK

(*a*) Manufacture of matches with yellow phosphorus ;
(*b*) Work involving the use of white lead ;
(*c*) Work involving the use of sulphur and its compounds ;
(*d*) Manufacture of products for washing which are reckoned to be injurious ;
(*e*) Work in factories for the manufacture of chemical products involving the use of poisonous substances ;
(*f*) Work connected with heating or the transport of coal ;
(*g*) Work involving exposure to a temperature above or below the normal.

WAGES

The minimum wage is fixed at 13 dollars (Chinese) per month. This provision does not apply to apprentices.

In the event of a rise in the cost of living, it is for the trade unions to agree with the employer for a wage increase.

HOURS OF WORK AND HOLIDAYS

Daily hours of work may not exceed ten. A weekly rest, with payment of wages, must be granted to workers. If the worker works on a day when he is legally entitled to rest, his wages must be doubled.

In cases of *force majeure* or accident, employers may, with the permission or approval of the public authorities, prolong hours of work under conditions agreed upon between them and the trade unions.

SEX EQUALITY

Work of the same kind must be paid for by the same wage, without distinction of sex.

MATERNITY

Six weeks' rest, with payment of wages, must be granted to women workers before and after childbirth.

COMPENSATION FOR INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

A worker who is the victim of an industrial accident is entitled to claim medical and pharmaceutical assistance from the employer in addition to his normal wage. If the accident involves total incapacity for work, the employer must pay the victim, for the rest of his life, a pension equal to the wages which he would have received. If the factory closes down, the pension will be continued to be paid by the Government. In the event of a fatal accident the employer must bear the funeral charges, and must make the deceased's family an allowance for a period of five or ten years, according to the age of the victim.

SICK PAY

A worker who falls sick is entitled, on medical authority, to claim half wages, and medical and pharmaceutical assistance. An exception is made in the case of workers suffering from venereal disease. If a worker dies as the result of an illness, the family is entitled to an allowance, the amount of which varies according to the number of years of the worker's service in the factory, and according to the particular agreement which may exist between his trade union and the employer.

OTHER ALLOWANCES AND INDEMNITIES

When work is stopped in the factory on the initiative of the employer, the employer must pay the workers, throughout the days of unemployment, the wage which they would normally receive. In the event of the employer finding great difficulty in meeting his obligations under this Section he may apply for Government assistance.

The employer may engage or dismiss a worker only with the consent of the trade union.

An employer who infringes the provisions of the foregoing Sections will be punished by a fine of from 500 to 1000 dollars (Chinese).

TRADE UNIONS AND DISPUTES

Workers and their trade unions are not allowed to take part in the recruitment of the managing or supervising staff of the factory, except in the event of their legitimate interests being seriously threatened.

Workers are forbidden to prevent others from working during hours of work, or to cause trouble or disorder of any kind.

When a trade union, either orally or in writing, addresses a request to an employer or a manager of a factory with the object of settling a labour dispute, the employer or manager must reply to the communication within 48 hours.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION

In the event of a labour dispute failing to be settled by conciliation through a joint committee set up by the parties concerned, the employer or the manager is required to inform the Arbitration Committee, which is composed of representatives of the Kuomingtang Party, of the Government, of the central trade union, and of the General Chamber of Commerce. During the proceedings of the Committee, the parties are required to suspend all hostile action. The arbitration award must be issued within a week at latest.

Both employers and workers are required to conform to the award issued by the Arbitration Committee.

Employers and trade unions must submit to enquiries ordered by the authorities, and must respect all measures taken under the Regulations.

The Regulations also state that collective agreements concluded before the promulgation of the Regulations, and which are not in manifest contradiction with them, shall remain valid. The Political Committee may implement, and if need arises, amend the Regulations, which, with the exception mentioned above (night work of women), are to enter into force as from the day of their promulgation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 28, 1927.*)

Unemployment in Japan

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT

At the request of the Japanese Minister of the Interior, the Commission for the Investigation of Social Works recently submitted a report outlining certain suggestions for dealing with unemployment.

The Commission points out that unemployment is a complicated problem, the solution of which should be sought in a healthy development of industry, an improvement in the present system of education, the institution of an unemployment insurance scheme, the organisation of public relief works, etc., and suggests that it would be desirable to appoint a special committee to consider and propose appropriate measures under those various headings.

In the meantime, however, the Commission makes a number of proposals relating more particularly to the social aspect of unemployment.

RELIEF WORKS

Among other things, the Commission advises the Government to devote special attention to the provision of public relief works, to be advanced or delayed according to need in order to meet seasonal or exceptional unemployment. Such works should either be subsidised out of State

funds or be facilitated by the grant of Government loans at a low rate of interest. In principle, relief works should be carried out by local authorities and public organisations, although private undertakings should not be excluded from the benefit of State assistance if it is recognised that their schemes are of a nature to reduce unemployment.

EDUCATION

The Commission is of opinion that an important factor in the unemployment problem is the providing of young persons with an opportunity to select the right vocation. It recommends therefore that vocational guidance centres should be established by cities, towns and villages, and that private persons and organisations carrying out such work should receive State subsidies. The Government itself should establish a central body to deal with vocational mental tests for young persons.

INSURANCE

The Commission recommends that the Government should entrust the Social Insurance Investigation Commission with an enquiry into the question of the institution of a system of unemployment insurance, and that, pending its report, the existing mutual relief associations should be improved and should continue to distribute relief to the unemployed. In the large cities, local public organisations should provide, under Government supervision and with its assistance, outdoor relief for the casual unemployed worker.

MIGRATION

In the belief that encouragement of migration and emigration would contribute to reduce unemployment, the Commission recommends that the Government should establish an overseas museum, and subsidise similar institutions to be set up by local public organisations, which would be entrusted with the task of popularising the idea of emigration and of furnishing information on foreign countries or on settlement areas within the borders of Japan. Steps should be taken to control agents who spread false or exaggerated information relating to facilities for settlement at home or abroad.

For the training of qualified emigrants the Government should provide migration schools and other facilities, and should assist similar institutions maintained by local public organisations. A close relation should be established between the public employment offices and the various institutions concerned with the movement of emigrants. Finally, hostels should be provided for emigrants, and emigration inspectors should be appointed to protect the health and the general interests of emigrants before their departure and during their voyage.

While recognising that there may be many other means of providing against unemployment, the Commission lays particular stress on the view that what is most urgently needed at present is a fundamental improvement in the existing system of education and it expresses the hope that the Government will at an early date adopt an adequate and well-considered policy in this matter. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

Factory Workers in Japan

The Bureau of Statistics in Japan published recently a report on the results of an investigation into labour conditions in factories initiated in October 1924. Some of the main points of this report are summarised below :—

HOURS OF WORK

The factories covered by the enquiry may be classified as follows, according to hours of actual work, excluding rest periods :

14	per cent. of factories	worked	12	hours	a day.
29	,,	,,	11	,,	,,
26	,,	,,	10	,,	,,
23	,,	,,	9	,,	,,
7	,,	,,	8	,,	,,

In the textile and paper industries, the group working 11 hours was the largest, with those working 12 and 10 hours next.

More than half the factories in the wood and bamboo, metal, clothing, porcelain, pottery, etc., industries worked 9 hours or more.

In the gas and electricity, food and drink, leather, machinery and tool industries, more than half the factories worked less than 9 hours.

HOLIDAYS

The factories may be classified, according to the holidays allowed monthly to their workers, as follows :

1	per cent. of factories	allowed	1	day per month.
76	,,	,,	2	days per month.
5	,,	,,	3	,,
12	,,	,,	4	,,
4	,,	,,	5	,,

The factories allowing no holidays, and those allowing 6 to 8 holidays a month, amounted in each case to less than 1 per cent. of the total.

REST PERIODS

The factories may be classified, according to the length of the rest periods allowed, as follows :

12	per cent. of factories	allowed	30 minutes.
2	,,	,,	50 minutes.
62	,,	,,	1 hour.
15	,,	,,	from 1 to 1½ hours.
7	,,	,,	2 hours.

The remaining 2 per cent. of the factories allowed 40 minutes, more than 2 hours, or no rest interval at all.

PAYMENT IN KIND

From the point of view of payment in kind, the factories may be classified as follows :

46	per cent. of factories	gave	board and lodging.
45	,,	,,	board.
26	,,	,,	lodging.
25	,,	,,	clothing.
3	,,	,,	rice.

Part payment in board and lodging or in board only is given mostly in textile factories, and part payment in clothing and lodging is given mostly in gas and electricity works. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 25, 1927.*)

Employment of Young Persons in Japan

It will be remembered that the Bureau of Social Affairs, in March of last year, initiated a scheme for the placing in employment of young persons on leaving school.

The number of boys and girls who were due to leave the elementary schools in March 1927 was estimated at 1,700,000 and of these approximately 25 per cent. or 400,000 were expected to seek immediate employment.

The efforts of the Bureau last year in this direction having proved fairly successful, a meeting of the Central Employment Exchanges Committee was called at the end of January of the present year, to discuss with representatives of the Department of Education and others interested what measures could be adopted to ensure closer co-operation between the labour exchanges and the schools, and to make possible a more careful consideration of the aptitudes and physical condition of the applicants for employment in the selection of occupations for them.

The Education Department of the Tokyo Prefecture recently decided, with a view to collecting material for use in juvenile guidance work, to distribute forms to be filled in by boys and girls leaving elementary schools in the Prefecture, with indications of the name of the school, whether the young person proposes to continue his or her studies, what kind of occupation, if any, is desired immediately, and the name of the school, if any, in which it is proposed to continue studies in spare time. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

The Workers' Point of View

BUSINESS MEN'S ADVICE TO EMPLOYERS

The committee appointed by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce to inquire into the subject of industrial unrest have now issued a second report, which deals with the question of the desirability of informing the workers on matters affecting the industries in which they are employed.

In the consideration of this question the committee have had the advantage of hearing the views of members engaged in various branches of trade and industry as well as the views of Chambers of Commerce. They have also considered the work which is being carried on by various organizations with the object of combating unsound economic theories and teachings and of counteracting the effect of the views expressed by those who show by their actions or otherwise that they are opposed to industrial progress in this country.

The committee are convinced that there is an urgent need for closer personal co-operation between the heads of industrial concerns and the

workers in those concerns. They are also convinced that there is a need for a better system of informing employees in matters which relate to the progress and advancement of the particular industries in which they are engaged.

Many of the troubles in industry to-day are due to misunderstanding and a lack of appreciation and tolerance of the point of view of the other side. The committee believe that these obstacles to progress could be considerably reduced if there was closer contact between the actual employer and his workpeople so that each might be better informed as to the needs and difficulties of the other.

Joint Consideration of Problems

The committee had examples given of the result of closer contact. In one case where a large order could only be secured if it could be completed within six weeks, the firm, from previous experience, had no hope of being able to accept the order on such terms. They called all the men together, placed the facts before them, and it was finally agreed to accept the order. The work was completed four days before the specified time.

The committee believe as a result of the testimony offered from many quarters that the relationship of those employed and those who immediately employ them was never better than it is to-day, but unfortunately when difficulties arise and matters of importance have to be decided upon, instead of employers and employees amicably discussing the matters, there is a tendency for each party to go its own way without consulting the other.

In the days of personal ownership, the proprietor of a firm knew all his men personally, but in the general progress, which is continually going on, the personal employer has given way to the limited liability company, and to-day the limited liability company is in many cases giving way to the large combine or group of companies.

In the same way the individual workman is now represented by the trade union and the trade unions have in turn formed themselves into a federation of trade unions. On the employer's side there are now associations of employers and these associations are in turn combined in large federations.

The results of these evolutions are primarily reflected in the divided loyalties of those who are constituents of those large federations. The workman is divided in his loyalty to his employer and to his trade union; the employer is divided in his loyalty to his workpeople and to his association.

Education

The committee believe that the end in view can be achieved by the closest possible co-operation between all parties. On the one hand employers and heads of departments should seek to know on more friendly terms those for whom they are responsible; they should assist them in their work and in personal difficulties; they should encourage them in their studies and in their efforts to better their position; they should take opportunities of meeting them from time to time in friendly gatherings

and they should show them how every one can gain by increased output, better production, better time-keeping and closer attention to work; and in this connection nothing is more inspiring than personal example.

The committee feel that education in the form of information and explanation of economic facts and human psychology is desirable both in the case of the employer and the employed. It should be individual and general. The individual information can best be imparted by the personal contact between the parties to which reference has been made, but it must be continuously maintained in order to be effective.

General information can also be presented by the printed word, but this is insufficient if not supported by individual contact. The committee would point out that information of the fullest possible character has been given and published regarding the position of the coal trade and of the railways, but unfortunately this has not averted trouble nor allayed suspicion. The committee feel that failure was possibly due to the lack of personal local contact between those who actually employed and those who were employed.

The committee consider that there is no specific remedy applicable alike to all industries apart from the general remedy to which reference has been made of closer personal contact and of fuller and freer information than has been given hitherto. Each industry has its own particular difficulties. At the same time, the committee confidently believe that if the actual employer personally responsible for those in the employment of the company he represents were to take some means of informing those on the company's pay roll on matters of vital importance to the well being of the company, it would create an interest by all concerned which would have valuable results. Furthermore in the course of such explanations, the workman would learn something of the difficulties of the employer in carrying on his concern and the employer would also learn something of the difficulties and aspirations of those whom he employed.

A new machine introduced into a shop is always a subject of much interest and speculation by the workers in that shop. No one would appreciate more than they some information as to the reason why the firm was spending capital money on the machine, what it was expected to do, and how it did it, and what effect it might have on the volume of trade that might be obtained.

There is need for the publication of simple economic principles, and also facts regarding the position of industry generally, including the wages paid and conditions of employment in other countries. While individual employers might do something in the way of supplying information, the teaching of such subjects would necessarily be mainly done by organisations which have for their object economic study circles and the giving of general industrial information.

Where appropriate machinery exists for the regulation of wages the committee are of the opinion that an opportunity is thereby afforded of discussing the position of the industries concerned and the various matters which affect results from time to time, having special regard to conditions in competing countries.

The committee are of opinion that in the past a true understanding of the nature of the difficulties encountered would have done much to prevent stoppages which have taken place, and that it would be of great advantage to have in all cases of dispute a free interchange of views regarding the questions involved, and, before any stoppage, a clear and definite statement of the questions at issue, both for the information of the public and of those directly interested. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, March 19, 1927.*)

Wage Changes in Germany

The German Federal Statistical Office has published statistics of hourly rates of wages and weekly earnings in certain groups of industries in Germany, based on collective agreements in operation in December 1926 and January 1927.

Weekly earnings are for the most part based on a week of 48 hours. The full-time week in the building trades is 47·5 hours in Hamburg, Dresden and Chemnitz, and 46·5 hours in Leipzig; in the woodworking trades it is 46 hours in Berlin; in the metal trades, 54 hours in Hamburg and Cologne and 56 hours in each of the five towns forming the north-western group; for State railways, the full-time week is 54 hours; and for surface workers at coal-mines, 60 hours.

The figures published by the Statistical Office are weighted averages of the hourly rates and weekly earnings of adult workers in the principal centres of the respective industries. In the mining, metal working, chemical, paper-making, textile and brewing industries, and for State railways, the figures are inclusive of allowances for wives and children, so far as these were paid.

The table given below shows the rates of wages in January 1927 :—

Industry	Skilled Workers		Unskilled Workers	
	Per hour	Per week	Per hour	Per week
	Pf.	M.	Pf.	M.
Mining	106·3	51·00	60·9	36·18
Metal	91·7	45·77	62·4	31·12
Chemical	85·2	40·90	72·0	34·56
Building	115·2	55·03	93·4	44·62
Woodworking	97·1	46·14	84·4	40·15
Papermaking	68·1	32·69	61·3	29·42
Textile : Males	66·3	31·82	55·5	26·64
Females	51·5	24·72	41·0	19·68
Brewing	103·5	49·69	90·9	43·65
Sugar, confectionery, etc.	84·9	40·75	73·3	35·18
Printing	95·9	46·05	83·7	40·16
Cardboard : Males	77·4	37·15	65·8	31·58
Females	50·9	24·43	42·0	20·16
State Railways	82·2	44·39	64·9	35·05

The following comparison of the weighted averages for all the industries covered, for December 1926 and January 1927, shows that there was little movement in the rates of wages during January :—

	December	January
Skilled Workers		
Per hour	94·9 pf.	95·0 pf.
Per week	46·36 m.	46·40 m.
Unskilled Workers		
Per hour	66·7 pf.	66·7 pf.
Per week	34·44 m.	34·47 m.

In January 1927, rates in the cotton industry were increased as follows : Skilled males, 7·5 to 8·5 per cent., skilled females, 7·1 to 8·3 per cent., unskilled males, 5·6 to 8 per cent., unskilled females 4·9 to 8·1 per cent. In worsted spinning at Kaiserslautern increases were obtained of 2·4 to 2·9 per cent. for skilled and 3·6 to 3·8 per cent. for unskilled workers.

Other important groups whose wages were increased in January were officers and seamen (*Vollmatrosen*) of the merchant marine and persons employed in inland navigation on the waterways of the port of Hamburg (Elbe river). (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 25, 1927.*)

The Growth of Unemployment in France

In so far as statistical data can be considered to give a clear indication of its movement, unemployment in France, which developed rapidly in December last and in January and February 1927, reached a stage in March which it may be hoped is the maximum. The following figures give the existing position and the position in recent months :—

Date	Number of Unemployed	
	In receipt of unemployment relief	Registered with employment exchanges*
24 February	79,689	96,466
3 March	80,941	95,362
10 March	81,916	90,170
17 March	80,414	94,193

There are no statistics showing the distribution of unemployed by industry for the whole of the country, but only for the Department of the Seine, where the number of unemployed in receipt of relief was 60,000 on 17th March, of whom 17,000 were manual labourers, 12,500 metal workers, 5500 wood workers, 5500 building workers, 4000 workers in the clothing trade, 3500 workers in the hide and skin trade, 3000 in the food and drink industry, 2000 in transport, 2000 in commercial offices, etc. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

* The figures in this column refer to a date previous by several days to the date indicated in the first column.

British Trade Union Legislation

THE TRADE DISPUTES AND TRADE UNION BILL, 1927*

Below is set forth the full text of the British Government's Trade Disputes and Trade Union Bill, which is described as "a bill to declare and amend the law relating to trade disputes and trade unions, to regulate the position of civil servants and persons employed by public authorities in respect of membership of trade unions and similar organisations, to extend section 5 of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, and for other purposes connected with the purposes aforesaid." Cross-heads have been inserted to indicate some of the principal proposals:

1. (1) It is hereby declared that any strike having any object besides the furtherance of a trade dispute within the trade or industry in which the strikers are engaged is an illegal strike if it is a strike designed or calculated to coerce the Government or to intimidate the community or any substantial portion of the community, and that it is illegal to commence, or continue, or to apply any sums in furtherance or support of any such illegal strike.

For the purposes of the foregoing provision a trade dispute shall not be deemed to be within a trade or industry unless it is a dispute between employers and workmen, or between workmen and workmen, in that trade or industry, which is connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of the employment, or with the conditions of labour, of persons in that trade or industry.

(2) If any person declares, instigates, furthers, or takes part in a strike declared by this Act to be illegal he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £10 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

(3) The provisions of the Trade Disputes Act, 1906, shall not, nor shall the second proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Emergency Powers Act, 1920, apply to any act done in contemplation or furtherance of a strike which is by this Act declared to be illegal, and any such act shall not be deemed for the purposes of any enactment to be done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute.

Protection of Non-Strikers

2. (1) No person refusing to take part or to continue to take part in any strike which is by this Act declared to be illegal, shall be, by reason of such refusal or by reason of any action taken by him under this section, subject to expulsion from any trade union or society, or to any fine or penalty, or to deprivation of any right or benefit to which he would otherwise be entitled, or liable to be placed in any respect either directly or indirectly under any disability or at any disadvantage as compared with other members of the union or society, anything to the contrary in the rules of a trade union or society notwithstanding.

(2) No provisions of the Trade Union Acts, 1871 to 1917, limiting the proceedings which may be entertained by any court, and nothing

* Taken from *The Daily Telegraph*, Tuesday, April 5, 1927.

in the rules of a trade union or society requiring the reference of disputes to arbitration shall apply to any proceeding for enforcing any right or exemption secured by this section, and in any such proceeding the court may, in lieu of ordering a person who has been expelled from membership of a trade union or society to be restored to membership, order that he be paid out of the funds of the trade union or society such sum by way of compensation or damages as the court thinks just.

(3) As respects any strike before the passing of this Act which is declared by this Act to have been illegal, this section shall have effect as if it had been in operation when the strike took place.

Prevention of Intimidation

3. (1) It is hereby declared that it is unlawful for one or more persons (whether acting on their own behalf or on behalf of a trade union or of an individual employer or firm, and notwithstanding that they may be acting in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute) to attend at or near a house or place where a person resides or works or happens to be, for the purpose of obtaining or communicating information or of persuading or inducing any person to work or to abstain from working, if they so attend in such numbers or otherwise in such manner as to be calculated to intimidate any person in that house or place, or to obstruct the approach thereto or egress therefrom, or to lead to a breach of the peace; and attending at or near any house or place in such numbers or in such manner as is by this sub-section declared to be unlawful shall be deemed to be a watching or besetting of that house or place within the meaning of Section 7 of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875.

(2) In this section the expression "to intimidate" means to cause in the mind of a person a reasonable apprehension of injury to him or to any member of his family or of violence or damage to any person or property, and the expression "injury" includes injury other than physical or material injury, and accordingly the expression "apprehension of injury" includes an apprehension of boycott, or loss of any kind, or of exposure to hatred, ridicule, or contempt.

(3) In section seven of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, the expression "intimidate" shall be construed as having the same meaning as in this section.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in any Act it shall not be lawful for one or more persons, for the purpose of inducing any person to work or to abstain from working, to watch or beset a house or place where a person resides or the approach to such a house or place, and any person who acts in contravention of this sub-section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £20 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

Political Fund

4. (1) It shall not be lawful to require any member of a trade union to make any contribution to the political fund of a trade union unless before the date upon which the contribution is levied he has delivered

at the head office or some branch office of the trade union, notice in writing in the form set out in the First Schedule to this Act of his willingness to contribute to that fund and has not withdrawn the notice in manner hereinafter provided; and every member of a trade union who has not delivered such notice as aforesaid, or who, having delivered such a notice, has withdrawn it in manner hereinafter provided, shall be deemed for the purposes of the Trade Union Act, 1913, to be a member who is exempt from the obligation to contribute to the political fund of the union, and references in that Act to a member who is so exempt shall be construed accordingly:

Provided that, if at any time a member of a trade union who has delivered such a notice as aforesaid gives notice of withdrawal thereof, delivered at the head office or at any branch office of the trade union, he shall be deemed for the purposes of this sub-section to have withdrawn the notice as from the first day of January next after the delivery of the notice of withdrawal.

For the purposes of this sub-section a notice shall be deemed to have been delivered at the head or a branch office of a trade union if it has been sent by post properly addressed to that office.

(2) All contributions to the political fund of a trade union from members of the trade union who are liable to contribute to that fund shall be levied and made separately from any contributions to the other funds of the trade union, and no assets of the trade union, other than the amount raised by such a separate levy as aforesaid, shall be carried to that fund or directly or indirectly applied or charged in furtherance of any political object to which section three of the Trade Union Act, 1913, applies; and any charge in contravention of this sub-section shall be void.

(3) All rules of a trade union made and approved in accordance with the requirements of section three of the Trade Union Act, 1913, shall be amended so as to conform to the requirements of this Act, and as so amended shall be approved by the Registrar of Friendly Societies (in this Act referred to as "the Registrar") within six months after the commencement of this Act or within such further time as the Registrar may in special circumstances allow, and if the rules of any trade union are not so amended and approved as aforesaid they shall be deemed not to comply with the requirements of the said section.

(4) If the Registrar is satisfied, and certifies, that rules for the purpose of complying with the provisions of the foregoing sub-section have been approved by a majority of the members of a Trade Union voting for the purpose or by a majority of delegates of such a trade union voting at a meeting called for the purpose, the Registrar may approve those rules and those rules shall thereupon have effect as rules of the union notwithstanding that the provisions of the rules of the union as to the alteration of rules or the making of new rules have not been complied with.

(5) Section sixteen of the Trade Union Act, 1871 (which provides for the transmission to the Registrar of annual returns by registered

trade unions), shall apply to every unregistered trade union so far as respects the receipts, funds, effects, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the political fund thereof.

Position of Civil Servants

5. (1) Amongst the regulations as to the conditions of service in his Majesty's civil establishments there shall be included regulations prohibiting established Civil Servants from being members, delegates, or representatives of any organisation of which the primary object is to influence or affect the remuneration and conditions of employment of its members, unless the organisation is an organisation of which the membership is confined to persons employed by or under the Crown and is an organisation which complies with such provisions as may be contained in the regulations for securing that it is in all respects independent of, and not affiliated to any such organisation as aforesaid the membership of which is not confined to persons employed by or under the Crown or any federation comprising such organisations, that its objects do not include political objects, and that it is not associated directly or indirectly with any political party or organisation :

Provided that the regulations made in compliance with the provisions of this section shall not prevent—

(*a*) an established Civil Servant from remaining a member of any trade union or organisation of which he had, at the commencement of this Act, been a member for more than six months if under the rules thereof he is or may become entitled to any payment during incapacity, or by way of superannuation, or on the death of himself or his wife, or as provision for his children ; or

(*b*) a person who in addition to being an established Civil Servant is, apart from his service as such, also engaged in some other employment or occupation from being any member, delegate, or representative of a trade union or organisation, of which the primary object is to influence or affect the remuneration or conditions of employment of persons engaged in that employment or occupation.

(2) If any established Civil Servant knowingly contravenes any of the provisions of the said regulations he shall be disqualified for continuing to be a member of the Civil Service.

(3) In this section the expression "established Civil Servant" means a person serving in an established capacity in the permanent service of the Crown, and includes any person who, having been granted a certificate by the Civil Service Commissioners, is serving a probationary period preliminary to establishment.

Local Authorities' Workers

6. (1) It shall not be lawful for any local or other public authority to make it a condition of the employment or continuance in employment of any person that he shall or shall not be a member of a trade union, or to impose any condition upon persons employed by the authority whereby employees who are or who are not members of a trade union are liable to be placed in any respect either directly or indirectly under any disability or disadvantage as compared with other

employees, and any condition imposed in contravention of this section shall be void.

(2) There shall be added to section five of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, the following provision, that is to say :

If any person employed by a local or other public authority wilfully breaks a contract of service with that authority, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the probable consequence of his so doing, either alone or in combination with others, will be to hinder or prevent the discharge of the functions of the authority, he shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £10 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

7. Without prejudice to the right of any person having a sufficient interest in the relief sought to sue or apply for an injunction to restrain any application of the funds of a trade union in contravention of the provisions of this Act, such an injunction may be granted at the suit or upon the application of the Attorney-General.

In the application of this section to Scotland there shall be substituted therein for references to an injunction references to an interdict, and for the reference to the Attorney-General a reference to the Lord-Advocate.

8. (1) This Act may be cited as the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Act, 1927, and shall be construed as one with the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1917, and this Act and the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1917, may be cited together as the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1927.

(2) In this Act the expression " strike " means the cessation of work by a body of persons employed acting in combination, or a concerted refusal or a refusal under a common understanding of any number of persons who are, or have been employed, to continue to work or to accept employment.

(3) This Act shall not extend to Northern Ireland.

(4) The enactments mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that schedule.

SCHEDULES

First Schedule

Form of Political Fund Contribution Notice

Name of Trade Union

Name of member's branch (if any)

Political Fund (Contribution Notice)

I hereby give notice that I am willing, and agree, to contribute to the Political fund of the . Union and I understand that I shall, in consequence, be liable to contribute to that Fund and shall continue to be so liable unless I deliver at the head office, or some branch office, of the Union a written notice of withdrawal : I also understand that after delivering such a notice of withdrawal I shall still continue to be

liable to contribute to the political fund until the next following first day of January.

A.....B.....

Address.....

Membership number (if any).....

.....day of.....19 .

SECOND SCHEDULE

Enactments Repealed

Session and Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
2 & 3 Geo. 5. c. 30	Trade Union Act, 1913.	In subsection (1) of section three the words from "and for the exemption" to "objects to contribute": section five: section six: the Schedule.

Trade Disputes in Germany

The number of trade disputes in the industries of Germany* causing stoppages of work, which were reported as ended in 1926, was 314, as compared with 1740 in 1925.

The number of workpeople directly involved in the disputes and the aggregate number of working days lost were much smaller in 1926 than in the previous year. The decrease was due to the unfavourable state of employment.

During the last quarter of 1926 the scope of industrial disputes was somewhat wider, as is shown by the following figures.

	Disputes	Establishments affected	Workers directly involved	Days lost
1925	1,740	25,155	756,680	17,104,862
1926				
January—September	254	1,498	39,757	1,006,492
October—December	60	988	47,142	305,913

As in 1925, the number of workpeople on strike or locked-out was highest in 1926 in the metal trades (238,937) and in the building trades (218,754).

These figures are preliminary and subject to revision. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

*Exclusive of agriculture and forestry.

Hours of Work in Various Countries

The following notes contain information relating to recent legislation and enquiries in various countries on the subject of hours of work.

FRANCE

During November and December 1926 several Decrees were issued in France embodying public administrative regulations for the enforcement of the Eight Hour Day Act of 23rd April 1919.

A Decree of 4th November 1926 extended to plate glass manufacture and the automatic manufacture of glass the provisions of the Decree of 19th February 1925, as amended by a Decree of 5th March 1926, relating to all other kinds of glass manufacture.

The special provisions relating to automatic glass works contained in this Decree apply to glass works in which the gathering and annealing, as well as the actual glass blowing, are done automatically, without the employment of any skilled glass-worker's labour, either at the furnace itself, or at an adjoining tank or separate tank.

In such works, hours of work may be arranged over a period of three consecutive weeks where three shifts are employed, and over a period of four consecutive weeks where four shifts are employed, provided that the total number of hours does not exceed, in the former case, 144 hours made up of not more than eighteen shifts, and in the latter case, 192 hours made up of not more than 24 shifts.

In addition to the permanent exceptions which may be granted for certain classes of workers by Section 5 of the Decree of 19th February 1925, the present Decree provides for the authorising of a prolongation of hours of work in the following cases :—

(1) Workers specially employed in any work on molten glass for the purpose of keeping the automatic machines continuously supplied—not more than two hours.

(2) Charge hands, salaried employees and workers specially employed in experiments and trials with automatic machines, etc., and workers employed in adjusting moulds—not more than two hours.

(3) In plate glass works, watchers, melters and fillers—24 hours for a period of three weeks; each period must be followed by 24 hours' uninterrupted rest.

Another new Decree applies to workshops, yards, shops, warehouses and offices of stevedoring establishments in ports not accessible to ocean-going ships.

In these establishments "the distribution of the fortyeight hours of actual work must be arranged in the proportion of eight hours a day."

As in all similar Decrees, it is stated that a time-table of work must be drawn up. Hours lost in any week or month may be made up during the same or the following week or month, in cases of collective interruption of work; the hours of work for any day may, however, in no case exceed ten hours, and a register must be kept at the disposal of the factory inspection officials.

The hours of work per day may be increased, beyond the limits given above, as follows : By not more than two hours for mechanics, electricians and stokers, and workers employed in upkeep and cleaning ; by not more than four hours for watchmen, messengers, waggon drivers, drivers of motor vehicles and other " transport workers," as well as employees of the medical service and of workers' welfare institutions. Such exceptions may, however, in no case involve a reduction of the period of uninterrupted rest between two working days to less than twelve hours.

The hours of actual work may be temporarily prolonged in the case of urgent work, or for the purpose of national defence or public service, and particularly :—

(1) When the extra hours are necessary and sufficient to finish the unloading of a boat.

(2) When a boat would be liable to extra port duties if the hours of work were limited to the legal period, provided that the extra hours are sufficient to avoid the risk.

(3) When a boat has become liable to extra port dues.

(4) When a boat has to go into dry dock or a repairing yard.

(5) When the unloading of certain merchandise is necessary in order to enable work to be resumed at the regular hour on the following day—not more than two hours a day.

Apart from these particular cases, overtime " may also be sanctioned by the authority in charge of the supervision of the port, when he is of the opinion, after consulting the persons concerned, that it is required by the public interest."

The provisions of a third Decree apply to " the wholesale halls of the Central Market in Paris, the open spaces adjoining and the establishments situated within the limits of the central market, engaging in wholesale commerce in similar food products and also to the stores or annexes of the said establishments, whether or not they are situated within the boundaries of the central market. "

In these establishments the hours of work shall be eight hours per day or fortyeight hours per week, and not more than nine hours on any one day, in order to permit a weekly half-holiday. In cases of accidental or unavoidable collective interruption of work, lost time may be made up within the periods generally prescribed by public administrative regulations, provided that the daily hours shall in no case be prolonged by more than one hour.

As in all similar Decrees, longer hours are provided for the management and supervisory workers, as well as temporary exceptions in the case of urgent work or work for purposes of national defence. This Decree specially provides for unusual pressure of work—" 60 hours per year and 100 hours in the fruit and vegetable trades ; but in no case may the working day exceed ten hours. "

The French Council of State has rejected an appeal of the Central Committee of French Shipowners against the Public Administrative Regulation of 31st March 1925 which, in addition to provisions relating to hours of work in the merchant marine, contains clauses concerning the organisation of work on board ship.

The shipowners alleged that this Regulation exceeded the powers granted to the executive authorities by the Act of 2nd August 1919, which merely provides that the methods of application of the principle of limitation of hours of work to eight hours per day and fortyeight hours per week, or the equivalent, shall be determined by Public Administrative Regulations. They also alleged that the Regulation conflicted with certain sections still in force of the Act of 17th April 1907 relating to safety in navigation and the regulation of labour on board.

In rejecting the appeal, the Council of State pointed out that, according to the terms of the Act of 1919, the conditions of application of the new system of regulation of hours of actual work was to be carried out by Public Administrative Regulations. The powers thus bestowed on the head of the State therefore extended to the organisation and supervision of labour within the limits of this new programme. By the Act of 1919, the Act of 1907 is automatically repealed, inasmuch as the Regulations contemplated in the 1919 Act contain provisions which conflict with the 1907 Act.

AUSTRALIA

One of the most important provisions in the Coal Mines Regulation Act (Amendment) Act which was passed last year in Western Australia and received the assent of the Governor on 16th December, is that providing for a seven hour shift " from bank to bank " in coal mines.

It should, however, be noted that this has been in force for some time past by virtue of an award of the Arbitration Court.

In introducing the second reading of this measure in the House of Assembly on 26th August 1926, Mr. M. F. Troy, the Minister for Mines, said :—

"This principle has been observed in Collie for the last five years, and is embodied in the Arbitration Court's award. It was the custom in England until recently, and the struggle that is now taking place there is due to the desire of the owners to increase hours or decrease rates. In Collie, fortunately, both parties are of opinion that the most efficient and economical means of working is secured by keeping a man at his task for seven hours a day, but no longer. As this principle has been in operation for the last five years and is embodied in the award of the Arbitration Court, the House can have no objection to its being embodied in legislation. The clause dealing with this principle is not intended to apply to a manager or his deputy, or to an engineer, a mechanic, an electrician, or a pumper."

On the second reading in the Legislative Council, on 15th September 1926, the Minister in charge of the Bill, Mr. J. W. Hickey, said :—

" Anyone with mining experience will agree that whatever justification there may be for insisting upon an eight hour shift in surface occupations there is no doubt that seven hours is sufficient underground. Men employed on the surface in God's fresh air never raise any strenuous objection to hard work, but, speaking from personal experience, I maintain that seven hours is a long enough shift to work underground. Both parties to the agreement desire that it should be embodied in this Bill and,

seeing that both parties are in agreement, we should have no hesitation in passing the measure. Coal miners who work under the piecework system at high pressure have not much to look forward to except an early grave and often a lingering death. I do not wish to become sentimental, but this clause of the Bill, at any rate, has much to commend it."

CHILE

On 24th January 1927 the Chilian Government promulgated a decree granting the eight hour day to railwaymen throughout Chile, as from 1st March 1927.

ITALY

An Italian Royal Legislative Decree of 13th January 1927 authorises the Government to require one hour per day of overtime from the permanent staff of Government offices.

This provision is intended solely for the purpose of meeting the special demands of postal and telegraphic offices subject to extreme pressure of work.

The personnel has been so reduced that it is " absolutely and urgently " necessary to grant the Department of Posts and Telegraphs the right to enforce a permanent and compulsory lengthening of the normal working day, as laid down in section 106, paragraph 2 of the Royal Decree of 30th December 1923, No. 2960, by one hour for established employees, except those in subordinate grades.

The rate of payment for this overtime will be determined by a Decree issued by the Minister of Communications in conjunction with the Minister of Finance.

BELGIUM

A Belgian Royal Decree of 27th December 1926 extended to retail shops, subject to certain adjustments, the Act of 14th June 1921 for the establishment of the eight hour day and the fortyeight hour week.

The main provisions of the Decree are based on the conclusions adopted by the Superior Council of Labour on 13th October 1926, except that the Decree does not specify the hours of beginning and ceasing work.

Shops employing three or more persons may, provided that the Weekly Rest Act offers no obstacle, be allowed four hours of work, strictly confined to Sunday, in addition to the regular fortyeight hours, on condition that not less than thirteen days per year are granted as holidays in compensation ; the fortyeight hours may, moreover, be distributed unequally over six working days, subject to a daily maximum of nine hours.

The same provisions apply to shops employing only one or two persons, provided that in such cases the reckoning is one of hours of attendance, which shall be nine hours a day and fiftyfour hours a week.

SPAIN

A Spanish Royal Decree of 17th December 1926 approves regulations for the application of the Legislative Decree of 8th June 1925 relating to the Sunday rest, which replaced the Act of 3rd March 1904.

By the new Decree, all days other than Sundays are to be regarded as working days.

All shops, factories, workshops, and commercial and industrial establishments not expressly exempted are to be closed throughout the day on Sundays.

Special provision is made for:

(1) Establishments in which the manufacturer or merchant is domiciled and which have only one entrance;

(2) Establishments for the sale of articles permitted to be sold on Sundays as well as articles not permitted to be sold on Sundays.

The Decree determines the methods by which compensatory rest periods are to be granted to employees of theatres and other places of entertainment, gamekeepers, herdsmen, the employees of casinos, clubs, billiard saloons, etc., and employees of distributive co-operative societies.

Next follows the list of exempted occupations. Certain of these exceptions (*e.g.*, for agricultural work, urgent repairs and demolitions) require an authorisation issued by the local representative of the Labour Council. Special procedure is laid down, however, for cases of emergency.

Exceptions may be made at the request of the municipalities, based on declarations by employers' associations, trade unions, etc., in favour of markets, fairs and pilgrimages traditionally taking place on Sundays. Such exceptions will be authorised by the Minister of Labour, Commerce and Industry, after consultation with the Standing Committee of the Labour Council, and may be renewed every five years.

Similar exceptions may be made in the case of industries handicapped by special conditions or fortuitous circumstances.

The Decree determines the methods of application of the weekly rest in the following trades and establishments: work on board ships of the merchant marine; fishing; hotels and restaurants; food and fuel shops; florists; porters; newspapers and press agencies; shops of the company which has a concession from the State for the sale of tobacco and postage stamps; savings banks and pawnbrokers; bathing establishments; and forwarding, loading and unloading of merchandise.

The Decree also determines the general conditions of Sunday work in industries in which it is permitted, *e.g.*, rotation of shifts, number of workers employed, work of women and persons under 18 years of age, maximum hours, agreements between employers and workers, or agreements between local representatives of the Labour Council and the Local Joint Committees and channels of appeal against such agreements.

Infringements are to be punished according to the provisions of Section 246 of the Labour Code.

The State, provinces and municipalities are bound to observe the provisions of the Legislative Decree and the Regulations.

A Legislative Decree of 26th December 1926 makes a new exception in favour of toyshops, when the eve of Twelfth Night is a Sunday; a period of rest is provided for as compensation.

ARGENTINA

The Committee appointed by the Government of Argentina at the end of 1925 to draw up a Labour Code has sent to the various national and provincial departments concerned a questionnaire on the subject of hours of work.

The Chief points on which information is requested are as follows :—

Length of the working day ;

Commercial and industrial establishments and classes of workers affected by the limitation of hours ;

Special and exceptional cases ;

Position of the State ;

Exceptions ;

Compensation ;

Overtime ;

Preparatory and complementary work and work done in shifts ;

Possibility of modifying the law by agreement between employers and workers ;

The " English week " ;

Rest pauses ;

Holidays ;

Work of women and children ;

Home work ;

Night work ;

Application to transport and communications ; and

Supervision and penalties.

GREAT BRITAIN

The British *Ministry of Labour Gazette* for December 1926 and February and March 1927 contained further preliminary figures obtained by the enquiry instituted by the Department into earnings and hours of labour in Great Britain during the four weeks in 1924 ending 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October.

The number of workpeople in public utility services regarding whom returns were received was 473,860.

Figures covering 466,366 workpeople show that their normal weekly hours, exclusive of meal times, were as follows :—

7·6	per cent.	worked	44 hours or less.
3·2	,,	,,	from 44¼ to 46¾ hours.
48·1	,,	,,	47 hours.
0·4	,,	,,	47¼ to 47¾ hours.
28·1	,,	,,	48 hours.
12·6	,,	,,	over 48 hours.

The following table shows average weekly earnings and hours for the period mentioned :—

Service	Average earnings in the four weeks (for 473,860 workpeople)	Average weekly normal hours (for 466,366 workpeople)	Average hours actually worked in the four weeks (for 298,762 workpeople)
	s. d.		
Local authority non-trading services ..	50 6	47·3	46·2
Gas supply :	60 4	48·5	48·7
Local authorities	60 7	48·3	48·5
Other	60 2	48·5	48·8
Electricity supply :	64 6	47·3	48·6
Local authorities	63 10	47·2	48·6
Other	65 11	47·5	48·6
Tramway and omnibus services : ..	68 6	47·8	*
Local authorities	64 2	47·6	47·3
Other	73 5	48·2	*
Water supply :	57 8	47·5	46·6
Local authorities	55 7	47·6	46·5
Other	60 6	47·3	46·7
Canal, dock and harbour authority services	73 8	45·8	*
All the above	58 10	47·6	47·2

In the case of the gas supply, a high percentage (18·0 per cent.) of employees is shown as having a week of over 48 hours : this is mainly accounted for by the inclusion of a considerable number of men working 7 shifts of 8 hours.

In the electricity and gas industries substantial proportions of the workers were employed on continuous shift systems.

In the electricity supply industry 7,974 workpeople out of the total of 40,257 covered by the returns were working on continuous shift systems, practically the whole being employed on a system of three shifts in each 24 hours. Of these, 5,881 were working 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 6 night shifts in successive weeks, each shift consisting of 8 hours. In a few cases a shift of 12 hours was worked on Sunday. In the case of 177 workers an average of 7 morning, 7 afternoon and 7 night shifts of 8 hours were worked.

In the gas supply industry, 19,888 workpeople out of the total of 95,726 covered by the returns were working on continuous shift systems, practically the whole being employed on a system of 3 shifts in each 24 hours. Of these, 10,766 were working 7 morning, 7 afternoon and 7 night shifts in successive weeks, each shift consisting of 8 hours. In a few cases a shift of 12 hours was worked on Sunday. In the case of

* The information received was insufficient to admit of representative figures being calculated.

4037 workers, an average of 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 6 night shifts of 8 hours were worked in successive weeks.

Account should be taken of the fact that, during the four weeks in question, of a total of 441,544 workpeople in all services, from 0·3 to 0·9 per cent. were on short time.

The number of workpeople in the food, drink and tobacco industries regarding whom returns were received varied during the four weeks covered by the enquiry from 378,829 to 402,192, the average being 390,041.

Figures covering 398,911 workpeople show that their normal weekly hours in the week ended 18th October 1924 were as follows :—

15·5	per cent.	worked	44 hours or less.
8·8	,,	,,	from 44¼ to 46¾ hours.
19·2	,,	,,	47 hours.
2·7	,,	,,	from 47¼ to 47¾ hours.
39·8	,,	,,	48 hours.
14·0	,,	,,	over 48 hours.

The following table shows the average weekly earnings and hours for the period mentioned :—

Industry	Average earnings in the four weeks (for 390,041 workpeople)	Average weekly normal hours (for 398,911 workpeople)	Average hours actually worked in the four weeks (for 218,046 workpeople).
	s. d.		
Grain milling	54 11	46·7	47·6
Bread baking	49 1	48·9	48·6
Biscuit manufacture	39 10	47·6	47·8
Cocoa, Chocolate and sugar confectionery	36 4	46·2	43·8
Preserved food, jams and sauce ..	36 9	46·8	45·5
Bacon curing and sausage making ..	48 1	48·6	48·0
Fish curing	40 9	51·3	49·7
Sugar refining	61 7	47·2	49·2
Seed crushing and cattle food manufacture.	54 10	45·7	46·1
Brewing, malting and bottling ..	53 11	47·9	47·6
Spirit distilling and compounding ..	51 4	46·9	48·4
Aerated waters, cider, etc.	41 6	47·4	45·7
Tobacco	42 7	47·1	42·1
Other food	47 4	48·3	47·7
All the above	46 2	47·5	46·2

Figures are given with regard to shift workers employed in the food industries, from which it would appear that in a considerable number of cases either two or three shifts of eight hours each are worked where

necessary, with free Sundays. In the beet sugar factories, 756 operatives were working on a system of 7 shifts per week, of 8 hours on Monday to Saturday, and of 2 hours, 10 hours, and 12 hours on Sundays in successive weeks.

Account should be taken of the fact that during the four weeks in question, of a total of 372,092 workpeople in all industries, from 7·5 to 12·3 per cent. were on short time.

Returns were received covering a weekly average of 304,117 workpeople in the following industries :—

Industry	Workpeople covered		
	No.	Males	Females
		per cent.	per cent.
I. Fellmongering and leather tanning.	31,371	82·2	12·8
II. Saddlery and leather goods ..	14,749	52·2	47·8
III. Indiarubber manufacture ..	35,482	56·3	43·7
IV. Brush and broom manufacture	9,007	53·4	46·6
V. Piano, organ and musical instrument (other than metal) manufacture.	13,521	91·5	8·5
VI Quarrying	48,778	99·7	0·3
VII. Metalliferous and shale mining	15,318	99·7	0·3
VIII. Carting and warehousing ..	75,594	92 6	7·4
IX Waste reclamation (other than metal).	9,977	43·0	57·0
X Various other industries, including patent fuel, games and toys, fancy goods, pencils and artists' materials, floor-cloth, roofing and flax felts, building materials, etc.	50 320	71·9	28·1
All the above ..	304,117	82 0	18.0

The normal weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, of 306,164 workpeople in the above industries were as follows :—

14·2 per cent. worked 44 hours or less.
8·0 „ „ 44¼ to 46¾.
19·5 „ „ 47 hours.
1·9 „ „ 47¼ to 47¾.
41·1 „ „ 48 hours.
15·3 „ „ over 48 hours.

The average weekly normal hours for all these workpeople were 47·3.

The following table shows average hours actually worked, average weekly earnings and average hourly earnings in these industries, each

industry being indicated by the Roman numerals used in the above table :—

Industry	Average hours actually worked (for 169,248 workpeople)	Average weekly earnings (for 304,117 workpeople)	Average hourly earnings (for 169,248 workpeople)
		s. d.	d.
I	45·7	51 1	13·6
II	46·4	37 1	9·9
III	46·8	44 4	11·6
IV	44·6	37 11	10·1
V	47·9	60 11	15·2
VI	45·2	51 4	14·0
VII	45·2	48 8	13·1
VIII	47·4	51 7	12·9
IX	44·2	36 7	10·0
X	46·4	47 11	12·4
All ..	46·3	48 10*	12·7

Of 285,248 workpeople, from 6·5 to 9·1 per cent. were on short time during the four weeks covered by the returns.

Information supplied by the Ministry of Transport relating to the week ended 29th March 1924 shows that the total number of male employees on the railways, other than shop and artisan staff, clerical staffs and supervisory staffs, was 426,928, and the average weekly earnings were 65*s.* 1*d.* per week. The normal hours of labour were 48 per week, and the approximate time actually worked was 5·5 per cent. in excess of the normal hours. The amount of short time was stated to be negligible.

CANADA

The results of an enquiry into the hours of labour in manufacturing establishments in Canada, undertaken on the occasion of the 1924 census, have now been published.

Tables are also given showing the results of two previous enquiries of a similar nature made in 1919 and 1923; but it should be noted that certain groups of industries, such as transportation, mining and quarrying, logging, etc., included in these two enquiries were excluded from the 1924 enquiry.

The number of establishments covered by the 1924 census was 40,000, employing 501,724 workers, whereas the 1923 enquiry covered only some 3,000 manufacturing establishments, employing 326,557 workers. Nevertheless, the percentage of employees on the eight hour day and less is approximately the same, namely, 37·3 per cent. for the 3,000 establishments and 33·5 per cent. for all establishments.

It will be seen that the eight hour day in manufacturing is most in vogue in the non-ferrous metal products group (55 per cent.), and that the textiles group shows the next largest proportion (39·1 per cent.).

* The average for males was 53*s.* 11*d.* and for females 26*s.* 5*d.*

The following table shows the numbers and percentages of workers in the various manufacturing industries working specified hours per day during 1924, according to the 1924 census enquiry :—

Groups of Industries	8 hours or less		9 hours		10 hours	
	Number	per cent.	Number	per cent.	Number	per cent.
I. Vegetable Products.	18,816	25·5	29,542	40·0	20,367	27·6
II. Animal Products.	7,598	25·9	13,380	45·6	6,883	23·5
III. Textiles, etc. ..	37,414	39·1	35,958	37·5	20,369	21·3
IV. Wood and Paper	50,199	32·8	35,715	23·3	61,012	39·9
V. Iron and its Products.	30,045	35·2	36,369	42·7	14,617	17·1
VI. Non-Ferrous Metal Products.	10,784	55·0	6,863	35·0	1,664	8·5
VII. Non-Metallic Mineral Products.	1,535	13·2	5,244	45·2	4,085	35·2
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products.	4,218	35·4	5 491	46·1	1,913	16·1
IX. Miscellaneous ..	7,375	35·0	9,231	43·8	3,974	18·8
All ..	167,984	33·5	177,793	35·5	134,884	26·9

Groups of Industries	Over 10 hours		Total	Number of establishments	Average number of employees during year
	Number	per cent.	Number		
I. Vegetable Products.	5,100	6·9	73,825	4,414	56,266
II. Animal Products ..	1,465	5·0	29,326	4,816	47,679
III. Textiles, etc. ..	2,277	2·4	95,782	1,781	82,364
IV. Wood and Paper ..	6,225	4·0	153,151	6,906	109,879
V. Iron and its Products.	4,640	5·4	85,212	1,003	66,912
VI. Non-Ferrous Metal Products.	307	1·5	19,618	341	17,213
VII. Non-Metallic Mineral Products.	774	6·7	11,638	1,095	21,196
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products.	360	3·0	11,982	457	10,201
IX. Miscellaneous ..	610	2·9	21 190	1,365	20,563
All ..	21,758	4·3	501,724	22,178	432,273

GENERAL

The five day working week has been put into operation at the Ford motor works in Manchester and in Rotterdam.

The Manchester management state that they are satisfied that, with the up-to-date plant employed in the Trafford Park Factory, they will be able to produce the same volume in five days as in the previous longer working period.

The local District Delegate of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, commenting upon the innovation, stated that he had had opportunities of comparing Ford methods with those of other works, and considered that the workers could easily do just as much in 40 as in 44 hours, as everything

was simplified and there was no wastage of time or effort. Certain other engineering firms (he added) concentrate the fortyseven hour week into five days, owing to the distances which have to be travelled by the workers, but the Ford proposition was better in every way.

After two months' working of the scheme, the company considers that output has been maintained, and an official of the company has stated his opinion that the workers earn as much as they previously did on the longer week, and that they are more efficient and more effective in team work. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 4, 1927.*)

National Health Insurance

At the meeting of the Royal Statistical Society on the 15th March 1927 Sir Alfred Watson, K.C.B., read a paper entitled "National Health Insurance : a Statistical Review." In introducing the subject the author referred to the objects of the scheme and to the fact that 97 per cent. of the insured population were members of approved societies, leaving 3 per cent. only to be divided between the "deposit contributors" and the men of the Forces, whose contributions were paid into the Navy, Army and Air Force Insurance Fund. He stated that the accumulated funds now approached £120 million, one-half of which was represented by valuation surpluses and cognate reserves which were in course of application to raise the general level of benefits and to extend their scope. He then examined the movement of the industrial population with reference to insurance under the national scheme in the years 1913 to 1923. He estimated the number of insured workers in October 1913 as 10,300,000 men and 4,610,000 women, exclusive of persons within what is now the Irish Free State. Ten years later these figures had increased, he estimated, to 10,699,000 men and 4,977,000 women of whom 930,000 were married. The comparatively small increase among men was explained by the war deaths, numbering over 600,000. The number of insured women had been considerably higher ; this section of the contributors had decreased since 1918 by about 540,000 following the exodus from industry of women who took up employment during the war. He estimated that 2,630,000 men and 2,633,000 women had entered insurance between 1919 and 1923, and that 60 per cent. of them came in at the age of 16 when the compulsory insurance of those in employment begins ; over 1,800,000 men and 3,000,000 women had gone out of insurance in the same period, 820,000 of the women having left industrial employment on marriage. He found that nearly 50 per cent. of the men who left insurance were over the age of 35, and concluded that a majority of these had taken up forms of occupation other than employment. A corresponding feature was found also in the case of women ; it seemed evident that, quite apart from those who left employment on marriage, many women resorted only temporarily to industrial employment. Sir Alfred in his paper also dealt with the experience of sickness and disablement claims of men, unmarried women, and married women respectively. Examining the question of maternity benefits he emphasised the relatively low birth rates among employed married women. (*From "Statist," London, March 19, 1927.*)

All India Trade Union Congress*

SEVENTH SESSION

The Seventh Session of the All India Trade Union Congress opened at Delhi on Saturday, the 12th March 1927, in the hall of the Hindu College. Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad presided over the deliberations of the Congress.

Seventeen Trade Unions from various parts of the country sent delegates to the Congress and several prominent persons were present.

After the General Secretary's speech of welcome the President delivered his address. He thanked all those present very heartily for the great honour done to him by electing him to preside over the Seventh Session of the Congress. He pointed out that the condition of the working classes was very deplorable. The Imperialistic system of Government followed by the bureaucracy in India was crushing down the poor, but the rich were getting richer. Monopolies and privileges of various kinds were flourishing, while 93 per cent. of the people were illiterate. Taxation has been raised which fell heavily upon the poor. He expressed the opinion that the State should control the uneven distribution of wealth, destroy monopolies and privileges of all kinds, put an end to poverty and make it possible for all to live easily and comfortably.

The workers in India, the President said, were being exploited both by the well-to-do classes of India and by foreigners in various ways. The workers did not get a living wage and were consequently deteriorating in their physical condition. The land cultivators, for instance, were exploited by several parties, namely, Government taking land revenue, money lenders and speculators buying the farmer's produce at low rates and reselling it to consumers at market rates governed by distant markets of England and America. The taxation of the country also was not on principles of democracy. Only about 11 per cent. of the taxes were levied direct on incomes while 89 per cent. of the taxes were indirect, being levied on consumption. Even the municipal taxes fell very heavily on the poor. Indebtedness among the agriculturists prevailed to an alarming extent and the position of the Indian agriculturist was thus one of chronic poverty. The President estimated the agricultural indebtedness of India at 600 crores of rupees. As regards the organisation of the workers the President pointed out that the 96·33 millions of agricultural workers in the country needed to be organised. He said that one organisation was required for each centre, if not for each of the 263 districts in British India. A single organiser, according to him, would soon find capable assistants to carry on the work in each city, town or village provided the initial work was started on a sound basis. In his opinion the work of organisation should be directed by the existing central body as well as by the existing provincial organisations of the Trade Union Congress. The funds required for propaganda work would be forthcoming as work proceeded. If competent leaders took up the work in a self-sacrificing

* Summary based on the report published in the All India Trade Union Bulletin, March and April 1927.

spirit, there would be no dearth of funds. Each locality would automatically provide the necessary funds and once the people were convinced of the real character of the work done, there would be no shortage of money.

As regards agriculture as an occupation, the President remarked that agriculture was a losing occupation. It did not cover the cost of production and consequently the land cultivators whether they were tenants or owners of land, were gradually sinking down in debt. In the opinion of the President the organisation of the people in the rural areas was far more important than of those in cities and towns. For the organisation of the agriculturists generally, he said, we had the excellent example of Denmark which was a purely agricultural country and from whom lessons had been taken by up-to-date countries like America, Scotland, Ireland, etc. Denmark had very successfully solved the problem of poverty among the agriculturists, especially of those holding small farms.

As regards Trade Unionism, the President pointed out that the movement was in vogue in India from ancient times. With the changes brought about by British rule, however, the Trade Union movement also took shape on Western lines, with modifications to suit the modified conditions of Indian society. Thus instead of trade unions, we had single unions of various trades employed in the Railway Workshops, textile mills, etc.; in other words, we had adopted the industrial structure instead of the craft structure for unions. This movement took a regular shape from the year 1918 and was, therefore, still in its infancy. It was growing as fast as it could but had many difficulties to contend with among which two could be specially mentioned, namely, the illiteracy of the workers and the opposition of the exploiters who abused their powers to keep down the real workers, in order to maintain their own inordinate profits and excessive emoluments. The President complained of the capitalistic tendency of the Railway companies and enumerated several grievances of the railway employees. He also referred to the racial discrimination on Indian Railways and quoted certain figures regarding the number of Europeans and Anglo-Indians employed on Railways.

As regards unemployment, the President pointed out that unemployment had increased especially amongst the educated middle classes. It was necessary, he said, that the extent of unemployment should be ascertained and adequate measures taken to remedy it. He was of opinion that the attention of Government should be drawn to this matter and that the organisers should be instructed to maintain a record of persons seeking employment at the provincial centres.

Referring to labour representation in the Legislatures, the President pointed out that labour could not have adequate representation unless and until there was adult suffrage. It was a matter of regret that while employers of labour were specially represented in the Legislatures, labour remained unrepresented there. In conclusion he pointed out the necessity of co-operation. Spiritually, he said, all humanity was one and the movement could not succeed unless this unity was recognised.

After the presidential address, the General Secretary read the report. He pointed out that there were 57 Unions affiliated to the Trade Union Congress. The membership of the affiliated Unions was 125,000 during

the year under report. Two meetings of the Executive Council were held, one at Bombay and the other at Calcutta. Business was also transacted by consulting the Executive Council by circular letters. No additional provincial committees of the Congress were formed during the year under report.

The following is the full text of some of the important resolutions passed at the Congress :—

1. This Congress views with approval the efforts which have been made by the Anglo-Russian Unity Committee to bring about unity between the International Federation of Trade Unions and Red International of Labour Unions and expresses a hope that the International Unity will soon be achieved and regrets its inability to consider joining the International Movement till such unity is achieved.

2. (*a*) This Congress looks upon Imperialism as a form of capitalist class government intended to facilitate and perpetuate the exploitation of all workers, both white and coloured, in the interests of the small ruling class, and declares that the only safeguard against exploitation lies in the creation by the working-class of a corresponding measure of unity and solidarity.

(*b*) This Congress therefore expresses its willingness and desire to bring about the greatest possible solidarity and co-ordinated activity on the part of the Trade Unions throughout the British Empire in order to counteract the ruthless exploitation carried on under the aegis of British Imperialism.

3. This Congress sincerely thanks the Trade Union Congress of South Africa for giving a hearing to Mr. C. F. Andrews, who was requested to place before it the grievances of Indian workers in South Africa, and also thanks the Trade Union Congress of South Africa, for agreeing to have a conference with the representatives of the All-India Trade Union Congress ; but is of opinion that as a result of the settlement arrived at by the Round Table Conference arranged by the Governments of the two countries such Conference is not now necessary. However this Congress hopes that the South African Trade Union Congress and Labour Party will support and initiate measures for the organisation and uplift of the Indian Workers in South Africa and instructs the General Secretary to remain in communication with the authorities of the Labour organisations in South Africa.

4. This Congress protests against the failure of the Government of India to give effect to the Scheme placed before them last year by the All-India Trade Union Congress for Labour Representation in the Central and Provincial Legislatures though the demand was modest and tentative, far short of the real requirements of the workers in the country.

5. This Congress is of opinion that legislation shall immediately be passed providing for all workers working in factories, mines, tea, coffee and rubber plantations and in all other organised Trades and Industries—

1. Adult Franchise,
2. An eight hours' day,
3. Machinery for fixing minimum wages,
4. Sickness and unemployment insurance,
5. Old age Pensions and Pensions for widows and orphans.
6. Maternity Benefits,
7. Weekly payment of wages.

6. This Congress re-affirms its old resolution protesting against the system of fines prevailing in industrial and commercial firms and railways and requests the Government of India to pass legislation making illegal all agreements between the employers and the employed enabling the employers to make deductions on account of fines from the wages or salaries of the employees.

7. Realising that every adult worker has a right to work and in view of the fact that there is at present widespread unemployment in the country, this Congress urges upon the Government of India to take as the first step to establish immediately public free employment bureaus in all industrial and commercial towns.

8. This Congress is of opinion that the workers styled and ranked as menials, employed by Government, municipalities, and other local bodies, and by railways, should be given the same privileges as are enjoyed by the ministerial staff with regard to leave, pensions, provident fund, gratuity, etc.

9. This Congress is strongly of opinion that more qualified Indian women should be employed on the staff for Factory Inspections in all the provinces of the country.

10. (*a*) This Congress expresses its deep regret at the unwillingness of the Government of India to carry out the resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly without division on the 5th February 1925 for an inquiry into the grievances of the Railway subordinate employees, at the attitude adopted by the Honourable Member for Commerce and Railways towards appeals preferred by aggrieved Railway employees, ignoring the Fundamental Rules and principles laid down for the protection of Public Servants against unjust treatment by Officials of Government or agency companies working State Railways on behalf of the Government of India and urges the Legislative Assembly to insist upon the enquiry being made publicly.

(*b*) This Congress re-affirms Resolution No. 23 of the Trade Union Congress of 1925, and urges upon the Government of India to amend the Indian Railways Act by inserting provisions for the constitution in India of a Central Wages Board for settling disputes concerning wages and conditions of service and for making it obligatory on Railway Administrations to establish joint Industrial Councils on the lines of the English Railways Act of 1921, Part IV, with modifications to suit Indian conditions.

11. (*a*) This Congress re-affirms Resolution No. IV of the First All-India Railway Men's Conference that the daily rate system be substituted by a monthly rate system of pay in the Railway Workshops with all the privileges of the regular staff and all Railwaymen to work 208 hours which should constitute a month except for the clerical staff whose total number of working hours should be only 144, gazetted holidays being reckoned as working hours in the month in which they fall.

(*b*) This Congress is further of opinion that the work done over and above this should be paid at 1½ (one and half) times between six and eighteen hours and at double the rates of pay drawn by men between sunset and sunrise and on gazetted holidays.

12. This Congress regrets to state that notwithstanding the declarations made by the Government of India from time to time regarding the removal

of racial discrimination, differentiations are still being practically made in matters of appointments, pay, leave, housing, etc., and Indians are not appointed generally to certain higher posts even in the subordinate grades, and this Congress, therefore, urges upon the Government of India to direct all the Railway Administrations to remove in actual practice all the discriminations which have been abolished in theory.

13. (*a*) This Congress urges the Government of India to insist upon the Companies working the State Railways to follow the State Railway Rules and practices relating to matters concerning the Railway Servants. Any failure on the part of the said Companies to observe the said conditions should be regarded as mismanagement of the State property and their contracts should forthwith be terminated.

(*b*) This Congress observes that the Government of India possess ample powers over the working of these Companies, as the Government Director sitting on the Board of Directors of the Companies has the power of *Veto* in all proceedings of the Board, besides the general supervision and control exercised by the Government on the Companies' administration.

14. This Congress strongly condemns the practice of Indian Railways employing contractors who levy a fee from porters licensed to handle passengers' luggage at stations and recommends direct enlistment and control of such porters by the Railway Administration without levying any fee from the porters, as such fees inflict hardships upon the porters and the public.

15. This Congress, while disapproving of the action of the Government of India in not enforcing the recommendations of the Seamen's Recruitment Committee by introducing a bill for amending the Indian Merchant Shipping Act in the Legislative Assembly, strongly urges upon the Government of India to introduce the same in the next Session of the Indian Legislature without any further delay.

16. This Congress strongly urges upon the Government of India the necessity of setting up an Advisory Committee along with the establishment of the Seamen's Recruitment Bureau as recommended by the majority of the members of the Seamen's Recruitment Committee on the lines of the Geneva International Labour Conference.

17. (*a*) This Congress urges upon the Government to legislate for eight hours' work for seamen employed in inland navigable rivers on the lines recommended by the Geneva International Labour Conference of 1920, in consultation with the organisations of shipowners and seamen.

(*b*) This Congress, while disapproving of the action of the A. O. H. and R. S. N. Companies of Bengal in compelling their employees engaged on steamers, launches, etc., to work for 12 hours per day and 16 hours when the steamers are in port strongly urges upon them the necessity of introducing at an early date the system of 8 hours' work per day, or, in the alternative, to pay extra wages for overtime work.

18. This Congress urges upon the I. C. N. and R. S. N. Companies (*a*) to grant holidays allowable under the Negotiable Instruments Act to their employees engaged on steamers, launches, ferries, etc., like the Railway Employees, and (*b*) to make proper accommodation for their employees in steamers.

19. This Congress urges upon the Indian Jute Mills Associations or the municipal boards in the areas to acquire the bustees in the Jute Mill area described by Mr. Thomas Johnstone, M.P., as "vile, filthy, disease-ridden hovels and heaps of pestilence" and build sanitary dwellings for housing Jute Mill Labour.

20. The Trade Union Congress urges on the owners of Jute Mills to revise the scandalously low wages averaging rupees fifteen per month paid to the workers of the Jute Industry which has been paying an average dividend of 90 per cent. for the last 10 years.

21. This Congress deplores the practice of the employment of women working underground and requests the Government to prohibit it immediately.

22. This Congress urges that Sundays be observed as full holidays and rules for granting leave on full pay be made for all mines in India.

23. This Congress welcomes the legislation introduced by the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly introducing Shift System in Indian Mines, but is of opinion that no shift of a period longer than eight hours should be permitted.

24. This Congress calls upon the Government to give immediate effect to the demands of Telegraph peons as made at the last annual meeting of the All-India Telegraph Workers' Union.

25. The Congress deplores the insanitary conditions under which most of the press employees in Calcutta and other large cities have to work and urges upon the Government to adopt remedial measures.

26. The Congress considers that the salaries of the Press employees all over India are inordinately low and urges upon the employers to grant them a living wage.

27. In view of the universal opposition to the piece system as it at present obtains in this country, this Congress views with apprehension the steps that are being taken by the authorities of the E. I. R. Press to convert a large number of their salaried workers into piece-workers and invites the attention of the Honourable Members in charge respectively of the Railways and of Industries and Labour with a view to stop the extension of the system which is worked in India on the basis of maximum labour for minimum wages.

28. This Congress, while welcoming the recent order of the Administrations to admit menials drawing up to Rs. 30 per month and over as eligible to the benefits of the Provident Fund, requests that all menials irrespective of pay be allowed the option of joining the Provident Fund.

29. This Congress is of opinion that the rate of compensation provided under the Workmen's Compensation Act are inadequate and suggests that the Act be immediately amended to bring it into line with the British legislation.

30. This Congress urges the Government of India and Provincial Governments to take immediate steps to reach the goal of total prohibition at an early date as the liquor traffic considerably affects the general welfare of the working classes in India.

31. (*a*) This Congress deplores the tendency in the Trade Union movement towards the creation and maintenance of small and overlapping Unions resulting in inter-Union rivalry, unnecessary dissipation of energy, and reduction of strength of workers in negotiating with employers.

(*b*) The Congress therefore declares in favour of developing Trade Unions on Industrial lines with one National Federation for each industry, and hereby resolves to appoint a thoroughly representative Committee which shall formulate detailed plans whereby the existing local and sectional unions shall be amalgamated into national industrial organisations. This Committee shall have power to co-opt accredited repesentatives of Unions not affiliated to the Congress.

32. The Congress appoints a Negotiations Committee—National and International—consisting of the following members :—

(1) Lala Lajpat Rai, (2) Mr. Jewahirlal Nehru, (3) Mr. T. C. Goswami, (4) Mr. N. M. Joshi, (5) Mr. D. Chaman Lal, (6) Mr. D. R. Thengdi, (7) Mr. B. F. Bharucha, (8) Mr. K. N. Joglekar, and (9) Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasada.

The Committee shall not take any action without the sanction of the Executive Council of the Congress.

33. This Congress appoints the Workers' Welfare League of India as the Agents of the All-India Trade Union Congress in Britain for the supply and distribution of information regarding the Trade Union Congress within the limits of the resolutions of the Congress.

34. This Congress resolves that the following be elected as office bearers for the year 1927 :—

President.—Dewan Chaman Lal, M.L.A.
Vice Presidents.—(1) Mr. Earnest Kirk.
(2) Mr. Mrinal Kanti Bose.
General Secretary.—Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A.
Administrative Secretary.—Mr. D. R. Thengdi.
Assistant Secretaries.—(1) Mr. R. R. Bakhale.
(2) Mr. S. V. Ghate.
Treasurer.—Mr. F. J. Ginwalla, M.L.C.
Auditors.—Gharda, Davar & Co.

35. This Congress resolves that the following persons be appointed as Provincial Organisers :—

Bombay.—Mr. S. H. Jhabwala.
Madras.—(1) Mr. E. I. Iyer, (2) Mr. L. Shiva Rao.
Central Provinces.—Mr. R. S. Ruikar.
Bengal.—Mr. Kishori Lal Ghosh.
Punjab.—Mr. Ram Chandra.
Assam.—Mr. T. R. Phookan.
Sind.—Mr. Naranji Anandji.
Bihar.—Mr. P. C. Bose.
United Provinces.—Mr. Ramzan Ali.
All-India Women's Organiser.—(1) Mrs. Santosh Kumari Gupta.

The New German Labour Protection Bill

In the February 1927 issue of the *International Labour Review* there appears an article on the above subject by Dr. Johannes Feig in which can be found a detailed and authoritative account of the new German Labour Protection Bill.

Dr. Feig prefaces his article with a short historical survey of labour legislation in Germany. He divides the history of German Social policy into four periods ; the first beginning with the Prussian Children's Protection Act of 1839, the second with the Imperial message of 1881 announcing the enactment of workers' insurance legislation, the third with the Circular issued by Emperor William II in 1890 and the fourth beginning with the war and its aftermath in Germany.

It is not known when the present bill will become law. It was submitted to the Provisional Federal Economic Council on 1st December 1926 and also to the Federal Council. It will afterwards go to the Reichstag. These three bodies may easily take a year to discuss the bill.

The present bill as the title shows is intended to cover the whole field of the protection of labour and not only the question of the hours of work. The term " Labour protection " is taken to cover the whole body of legislation which in the public interest imposes obligations on the employer in relation to his workers, the fulfilment of these being secured by the means established by public law.

The new Labour Protection Bill is based on existing German law which it endeavours to co-ordinate, unify, and improve. It aims particularly at improving the regulations regarding the hours of work. It also aims at restricting the far reaching powers of the authorities with respect to the granting of exceptions. And in general the object of the bill is to make the greatest possible protection of the workers compatible with the unquestioned requirements of industry.

The Bill is divided into seven parts ; the first contains provisions regarding the field of its application, the definition of the term " worker," and the persons responsible for the administration of protective regulations. The second part deals with industrial safety. The third contains rules and provisions for hours of work. The fourth part deals with Sunday rest, the fifth with the closing hours of shops, the sixth with labour inspection and the seventh with the enforcement of the act, in particular the powers of the authorities, the date at which it comes into force and expires, and the effects on existing law.

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

The portion of the Bill dealing with Industrial Safety lays down that the employer must equip his undertaking and organise the work in such a way that the workers are protected against risks to life, health and morals in so far as the nature of the undertaking allows, and, if he employs young persons and women, he must take further special measures for their protection.

An innovation of considerable importance relates to the so-called protection of machinery. The Federal Minister of Labour may prescribe

that certain forms of machinery and equipment may not be traded in or used unless they satisfy the conditions laid down for the protection of life and health.

HOURS OF WORK

The most important part of the Bill deals with the hours of work. It begins by postulating the principle of 8 hours day and the 48 hours week, and applies this maximum not only to employment in the undertaking itself, but also to work given out for being done at home, and to the aggregate hours of work done for all the employers for whom a worker may be employed.

The Bill makes provision for four important cases of actual extension of hours of work. This is allowed (*a*) for preparatory or complimentary work, (*b*) for essentially intermittent work or work consisting largely of periods of mere presence on duty, (*c*) for overtime in cases of urgent necessities and (*d*) in cases of emergencies.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS AND CHILDREN

In the third part of the Bill dealing with the protection of women, young persons and children, the new provisions have been based on the existing measures, but they have been made more uniform and extended in various respects ; in particular, the protective regulations, which formerly mainly covered the work of wage earners, are extended to salaried employees. Further the age limit for the protection of young persons is raised from 16 to 18 years, and in the provisions for the protection of children, the employers' own children are treated more like the other children of the employees than formerly. Finally, the protection of motherhood is much improved.

As regards night work, according to the existing law, it is prohibited for women and for young persons up to 16 years of age. This prohibition is now extended to persons between 16 and 18 years of age, and to all salaried employees under 18, but not to salaried women employees over 18. The night is reckoned from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., but where the work is performed in shifts, the period of prohibition for workers over 16 years of age is limited to hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., provided the rest period of not less than 15 hours is allowed.

Women and young workers are to have an uninterrupted rest period of not less than 11 hours, and women have to be given a free afternoon on Saturdays and the days before holidays. Further, certain minimum breaks must be given to young workers and women. In certain occupations, especially those of commerce, hotels and restaurants and theatres, the provisions in question apply only with limitations.

As compared with the existing law, the protection of motherhood is substantially extended in the new bill, on the lines laid down in the Washington Convention. A woman worker producing a medical certificate stating that her confinement would probably take place within six weeks may leave her work. She may not be employed during the six weeks following confinement, and she may remain away from work for a further six weeks on the production of a medical certificate. During this period she is entitled to the maternity benefit payable under the sickness insurance system.

A woman nursing her child is to be allowed half an hour twice a day, or an hour once a day during her working hours for this purpose. Notice of dismissal by the employer cannot take effect for a period of 6 weeks before and 6 weeks after confinement, with the additional period when any work is not possible.

SUNDAY REST

The provision regarding Sunday rest was already stricter in Germany than in most other countries. The new Bill maintains the existing conditions, but enlarges the scope of the provision and in particular defines clearly the connection between admissible Sunday work and the working week. In principle work on Sundays and Statutory Holidays is prohibited. The rest period must last 24 hours in undertakings which work continuously except on Sundays. Exceptions are made in the case of certain industries only.

With very few exceptions, Sunday work is altogether prohibited for young persons under 16 years of age. Workers employed on permissible Sunday work must be allowed a compensatory rest period during the week. As a rule, the length of actual Sunday work is limited to a few hours.

LABOUR INSPECTION

The term "Labour inspection" is now substituted for the term "industrial inspection." The powers of the inspectors remain on the whole unaltered. The competence of the Federal Government which has hitherto been very small has been somewhat extended and the Federal Minister of Labour is empowered to make decisions and lay down rules to secure the necessary uniformity in both the appointment of officials and their activities.

Statistics of Trade Unions and Employers' Organisations in South Africa

For some years the Director of Census and Statistics has made a compilation as at the 30th of September each year of membership figures of trade unions and employers' associations. Preparations for the 1926 compilations have now been completed and the opportunity taken, in consultation with the Director of Census and Statistics, to introduce two new features.

The Divisional and Industrial Inspectors of the Department of Labour have been co-opted to collect the information in their own inspectorates, collection as a whole being co-ordinated by the Registrar of Trade Unions and Employers' Organizations. An element which has hitherto been absent, *viz.*, the possibility of checking the figures on the spot, is thus introduced. The second innovation is the classification of organisations in accordance with lines laid down in the Industrial Conciliation Act. The collection will be made separately in regard to :—

Trade Unions registered under the Act ;
Employers' Organizations registered under the Act ;
Trade Unions not registered under the Act ;
Employers' Organizations not registered under the Act.

Forms for completion are now being distributed to the organizations concerned. (*From "Social and Industrial Review, Pretoria, March 1927.*)

Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery

We have received the Report and the Draft Questionnaire on the above subject, issued by the International Labour Office. The Report is divided into two parts : Part I gives a general survey of the whole question while Part II deals with the minimum wage systems of different countries.

In the Preamble to Part XIII of the Peace Treaty " the provision of an adequate living wage " is mentioned among the problems of urgent importance which require solution. This problem has therefore been receiving the close attention of the International Labour Office. The research work which the International Labour Office has carried out in the sphere of legislation for the fixing of wages has led it to the conclusion that this question might usefully be examined by the Conference And it was therefore decided to place the subject of minimum wage regulation on the agenda of the Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference, 1927.

It was in the latter half of the 19th century that legislation for the regulation of minimum wages came into existence. The earliest system of minimum wage regulation in modern times was that introduced into New Zealand and Australia during the last decade of the 19th century. The first law was that of New Zealand in 1894. Australia soon followed the example of New Zealand. In the meanwhile, the European and North American countries were watching these experiments in the Southern hemisphere which later formed a suitable basis for legislation in these countries. Thus, after a careful study of the Australasian systems, the British Parliament passed a minimum wage law in 1909. In the United States, Massachusetts adopted the minimum wage principle in 1912, while eight other states followed in 1913. During the greater part of the war the ordinary progress of legislation was interrupted in many countries, but various temporary measures regulating the wages, especially of munition workers, were passed. After the war, especially during the period 1918-1920, there was a very great extension of the minimum wage legislation.

The scope of the laws in force in various countries varies greatly, as also the methods of their application.

The legislation of some countries, *e.g.*, New Zealand and Australia, provides for the fixing of minimum rates in almost all trades. Other laws apply only to certain occupations, while yet others provide for the fixing of minimum rates of wages for certain specified categories of workers, generally women or homeworkers.

The objects of minimum wage legislation are twofold : (1) the prevention of the payment of unduly low wages to the workers and (2) the elimination of unfair competition between employers with regard to wages.

The most important types of machinery for the regular fixing of minimum wage rates are trade boards and general boards. Where the trade board system is adopted a separate board is set up for each trade or industry. Each board acting independently of other boards fixes minimum rates for its own trade or industry. In the case of the general board system a single board fixes minimum rates for a number of different industries. A third

type of minimum wage-fixing machinery is the court of compulsory arbitration. Such courts cannot, however, be regarded as machinery for the regular and systematic adjustment of wages. But this machinery differs from a trade board in so much as the object of a trade board or general board is the satisfactory regulation of wages and other conditions of labour while the essential purpose of an arbitration court is to prevent disputes and no action can be taken apart from the existence of a dispute. A fourth way in which wages are regulated is the system adopted in a small number of States by which minimum rates are specified in the law itself, the legislature thus being the minimum wage fixing authority.

The number of countries which have adopted the system of trade boards is considerable. Great Britain, France, Australia, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Norway, the Argentine Republic and the Australian States of Victoria and Tasmania, all follow the trade board system. In other Australian States the trade board system is in force in combination with general boards and arbitration courts. In Hungary where the minimum wage system applies only in agriculture, minimum rates are fixed by district trade boards.

The essential feature of the trade board system is that a separate board is set up in each trade. The board fixes minimum rates for its own trade independently of the boards for other trades. As regards membership, the composition of trade boards is, broadly speaking, similar in different countries. It generally consists of a number of members representing employers in the trade and an equal number of members representing workers in the same trade. To these are added one or two disinterested persons. The essential feature of the activity of these disinterested persons is to act as conciliators in order to secure agreements between the employers and workers. In the event of disagreement between employers and workers the disinterested members become the deciding factor.

Various laws providing for the establishment of trade boards specify the number of the proportion of disinterested members in relation to representative members. Some laws also indicate the total membership of boards.

A trade board may be set up for an industry for a given district only or it may be established on a national basis. Where the latter course is adopted the board may either fix uniform rates for the whole country or for different trades according to districts. Where a national board fixes district rates it often sets up district committees for advisory purposes.

The essential feature of the general board system is that minimum rates in a number of industries are fixed by the same body. The system thus provides greater possibilities of avoiding unnecessary differences between minimum rates of wages in the various trades where these are fixed independently by a separate board in each trade. This type of machinery has been adopted in the United States, Canada, in certain Australasian States and in South Africa.

The general trade board usually consists of 3 or 5 members charged with the duty of fixing and in some cases of enforcing minimum rates in different trades. Often the Chairman of a board is a member of the legal profession or an official of the public administration. The remaining members may consist of representatives, in equal numbers, of employers and workers, or they may be disinterested persons. The boards are

generally given wide powers of investigation including the examination of witnesses on oath and the production of relevant documents.

A general board may fix rates which differ according to trade or district or it may fix uniform basic rates applicable to all industries. In the United States and Canada the general practice has been to fix rates applicable to a given trade throughout the state or province.

The principles regarding the bases to be adopted are difficult to be defined from the international point of view. In Australia and New Zealand the problem of bases for fixing minimum wages has received the greatest attention. In the United States and Canada also much consideration has been given to this problem for fixing minimum rates for women workers. According to a number of minimum wage laws, the wage fixing body is free to fix minimum wages on whatever principle it may consider most satisfactory in the circumstances. Other laws lay down with greater or less precision the bases which the wage fixing body shall adopt in reaching its decisions. The bases specified in various laws include the living wage basis and that of fixing minimum wage in any trade in relation to the wages paid to the workers in the same trade in other districts or in relation to the wages paid to workers of similar grades in other trades. There is a third important basis, the capacity of the individual industry or of industry in general, which, though sometimes not expressly mentioned in the minimum wage laws, must always be taken into account in practice.

The living wage principle has received its greatest application by wage fixing bodies in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada. For instance, in New South Wales the Industrial Commission is required, after public enquiry, to declare from time to time what shall be the living wages to be paid to adult male employees and adult female employees in the State. For adult male workers the living wage must be based on the requirements of a man with a wife and two children under 14 years of age and for adult female workers the wage is to be based on the requirements of a woman without dependents.

The principle of the " capacity of industry to pay " is interpreted in two ways. For instance, in Australia and New Zealand the wages of a given group of workers are determined on the basis of the capacity of the industry in general without taking account of the capacity of individual industries except for the purpose of estimating general capacity. From this point of view the basis is similar for the purposes of fixing the minimum wages of the lowest grade of workers to the living wage basis. Capacity to pay is also interpreted to mean the capacity of each separate industry and the minimum wages of each industry are fixed solely, or almost solely, according to the conditions in that industry. This basis is often adopted where minimum wages are fixed by independent trade boards.

Wages are also fixed in relation to those paid to other groups of workers. But in so far as the average level of wages in a large number of industries closely represents the capacity of industry as a whole to pay, the wages of one group of workers fixed in relation to this level would be similar to the wages fixed according to the capacity of industry in general ; and thus the three principles, of living wage, capacity of industry to pay and payment in relation to the wages of other groups of workers, give practically similar results.

Two methods are usually followed for the demarcation of trades and occupations for purposes of minimum wage regulations. According to one method all similar establishments in a given area are grouped into one industrial unit and common wage scales apply to all workers in the establishments covered. According to the second method, *viz.*, the occupational method of grouping, the individual workers are classified according to their occupation or craft, irrespective of the industry in which they work.

To ensure that the minimum rates fixed are actually paid is of primary importance, otherwise the legislation fails to give protection to the worker, while employers who observe the law are placed at a disadvantage owing to the unfair competition of their rivals. The difficulties of enforcement are especially great in the case of homeworkers and those in small undertakings. These workers are often afraid to complain of underpayment lest they should prejudice their remaining in employment. Also, in their case, the discovery of evasion is difficult.

Minimum wage laws may be enforced by the wage-fixing body or by some other authority. In the former case special inspectors are usually appointed. In the latter case also, a special staff of inspectors may be appointed, or the ordinary factory inspectorate may be charged with the duty of determining whether or not there is compliance with the law. Complaints are generally investigated by inspectors of the authority responsible for the enforcement of the legislation. In order to ensure, as far as possible, that the necessary information is available to enable an inspector to satisfy himself that a complaint is well founded, or to discover cases of non-compliance during routine visits of inspection to any establishment, most laws require the employer to keep proper wage records. These records must include the names and actual earnings of all workers covered. The various records which an employer is required to keep are to be submitted for inspection at all reasonable times, generally during working hours. Submission of false records involves liability to fine.

In cases of underpayment most minimum wage laws provide for the recovery from the employer, by civil action, of the difference between the wages actually paid and the legal minimum. In addition to the recovery of arrears by civil action minimum wage laws generally contain provisions for the imposition of a penalty by criminal proceedings. Liability to fine or imprisonment is the penalty provided by most minimum wage laws for failure to pay the minimum rates in force. According to Massachusetts law the only penalty is publicity. This penalty of publicity suffers from the defect that it operates somewhat unequally according to industry. For instance, where the workers come into direct contact with the public or where the sale of goods produced depends largely on the reputation of the firm, the penalty may be severe, but in other cases, the penalty may be insignificant.

Cases of underpayment are tried and penalties imposed by the wage-fixing authority or by some other authority or court, or by the ordinary courts. It is usually provided by the laws that the existence of an agreement between employers and workers for work to be done at a rate lower than the legal minimum is no defence against a charge of underpayment.

The following tables give a summary of the minimum wage systems of various countries :—

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery [1]
GERMANY	Homework [2] Act of June 1923.[3]	*Trades :* Any home or out-work trade. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type* : Local trade boards. *Membership :* Number not specified; three impartial members. *Ratification of Rates :* Only if resolution fixing rates not adopted by two-thirds majority of representative members on board, together with chairman and one other impartial member. In such cases, authority which constituted the board ratifies.
AUSTRIA	Homework Act of 19 December 1918.	*Trades:* Any home or out-work trade [4]; workshop trades in which machinery set up for regulating wages of home-workers also covered. *Persons :* Male and female workers	*Type :* National trade boards, with local boards for advisory purposes where necessary. *Membership:* At least nine, employers, workers and impartial persons equally represented. *Ratification of Rates :* By Minister of Social Administration.
FRANCE	Law of 10 July 1915.	*Trades :* Primarily clothing and allied trades performed by homework; law may be extended to other homework trades. *Persons :* Female workers.[5]	*Type :* Trade boards in each Department.[6] *Membership :* Two to four workers, an equal number of employers, with a "juge de paix" as chairman. *Ratification of Rates:* No provision. Objections to decisions of boards examined by Central Commission in Paris.

[1] Throughout this table, in cases where boards other than general boards are set up they consist of employers and workers equally represented, usually with one or more impartial members.

[2] Throughout this table, in addition to penalties for non-observance, most laws provide for the payment of arrears of wages due to a worker.

[3] The minimum wage principle is also adopted by the Conciliation Order of 30 October 1923, which provides for compulsory arbitration as a last resort in cases of dispute.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement [2]
Trade boards to endeavour to fix adequate wages. Wages are inadequate if homeworkers of full capacity working normal hours cannot earn wage customary in locality, or wage for similar work in other districts with similar economic conditions, or wage paid in factories or workshops in district for similar work.	*Juveniles :* No provision. *Sub-standard workers :* No provision.	*Authority :* The local trade boards. *Inspectors :* No special provision. *Penalty :* Fine.
Not specified. Account to be taken of differences in local conditions, and competition between different districts. In certain circumstances provisions of collective agreement remain valid even where contrary to trade board determination.	*Juveniles :* No provision. *Sub-standard workers :* No provision	*Authority :* District industrial authorities. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine. Intermediaries repeatedly convicted may be prohibited from acting as intermediaries in the trade for all time or specified term.
In relation to average wage for same or similar work in workshops. If such work not done in workshops in district or in similar districts, wage to be fixed in relation to wage usually paid to women in district.	*Juveniles :* No provision. *Sub-standard workers :* No provision.	*Authority :* Minister of Labour. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Worker underpaid, in addition to recovery of balance due, can obtain damages. Trade unions and certain other authorised associations can also take civil proceedings and obtain damages. Fine for failure to keep registers of homeworkers and wage records, post wage scales, etc.

[4] The Act provided for its immediate application in the case of the manufacture, by means of homework, of clothing, including boots and shoes.

[5] Male homeworkers paid less for similar work than minimum fixed for females may institute proceedings to ensure that the same minimum shall apply also to them.

[6] On the basis of the time rates fixed by the boards, piece rates are calculated by occupational committees of assessors consisting of two employers, two workers, and a " juge de paix ".

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
GREAT BRITAIN	Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918.[1]	*Trades:* Any trade in which Minister of Labour is of opinion that no adequate machinery exists for effective regulation of wages throughout the trade, and that, having regard to rates of wages prevailing in the trade or any part thereof, it is expedient that the Acts should be applied. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* Trade boards, generally national. *Membership :* Number not specified; impartial members to number less than half total of representative members. *Ratification of Rates :* By Minister of Labour.
	Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.[2]	*Trades :* Agriculture including dairy farming and use of land as grazing, meadow, pasture, orchard or osier land, or woodland or for market gardens or nursery grounds. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* Local (country) boards, and national board for co-ordination. *Membership :* Local boards, total number not specified; three impartial members. National board, number not specified; impartial members not to exceed one-quarter total membership of board. *Ratification of Rates :* Rates fixed by local board require ratification by national board.
	Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, 1912.	*Trades :* Coal mining (including stratified ironstone mines). *Persons :* All underground workers (male), with minor exceptions.	*Type :* Local boards. *Membership :* Number not specified; impartial chairman. *Ratification of Rates :* No provision.
HUNGARY	Act of 28 May 1923.	*Trades :* Agricultural work. *Persons :* Male and female day labourers.	*Type :* Local wage boards *Membership :* Chairman vice-chairman, two members representing employers, two representing workers; district inspector of agriculture member without vote. *Ratification of Rates :* Minister of Agriculture orders payment of rates fixed by boards, and examines protests against such rates

[1] A similar system is in force in the Irish Free State. In Northern Ireland, the legislation differs somewhat from that in force in Great Britain, especially as regards scope and rate-fixing powers.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—*contd.*

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Not specified.	*Juveniles :* Trade board may fix special minima. Apprenticeship premiums permitted only in pursuance of instrument of apprenticeship not later than four weeks after commencement of employment. *Sub-standard workers :* Exemption permits granted to workers handicapped by infirmity or physical injury.	*Authority :* Minister of Labour. *Inspectors :* Special staff. *Penalty :* Fine.
As far as practicable, a wage for able-bodied men adequate to enable worker in ordinary case to maintain himself and family in accordance with reasonable standard of comfort in relation to nature of his occupation.	*Juveniles :* Boards may fix special minima. *Sub-standard workers :* Exemption permits granted to workers handicapped by physical or mental deficiency, age or other cause.	*Authority :* Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. *Inspectors :* Special staff. *Penalty :* Fine.
Account taken of average daily rate of wages paid to workers of class for which minimum to be fixed.	*Juveniles :* No special provision. Boards may fix lower minima. *Sub-standard workers .* Exemption of workers handicapped by age or infirmity.	*Authority (administrative) :* Minister of Mines. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* No special provision ; payment of minima ensured according to law governing contracts of employment.
Account to be taken of working capacity, sex, age.	*Juveniles :* Boards may fix special minima. *Sub-standard workers :* Boards may fix special minima according to capacity.	*Authority :* In first instance, wage boards, in last resort, Minister of Agriculture. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine.

[2] This Act applies only to England and Wales.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
ITALY	Act of 3 April 1926 for legal regulation of collective relations in connection with employment.	*Trades :* Any trade. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type*. Local arbitration courts *Membership :* Three magistrates who are members of local Court of Appeal, and two citizens expert in production and labour problems. *Ratification of Rates :* No provision; appeals against decisions of a court examined by Court of Cassation.
NORWAY	Homework Act of 15 February 1918.	*Trades :* Primarily clothing and needlework performed by home or out work. Act may be extended to other homework trades and to prevent homework from being driven out, to workshop and factory trades in which homeworkers are employed. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* Local trade boards controlled by general board. *Membership :* Trade board consists of impartial chairman and at least four other members; general board consists of three or five members, employers and workers being equally represented. *Ratification of Rates :* Rates fixed by trade board to be ratified by general board, which has power to modify.
ROUMANIA	Act of 4 September 1920.	*Trades*. Public utility services employing at least ten workers. *Persons*. Male and female workers.	*Type :* Arbitration Court. *Membership :* Two from each side to dispute, and impartial president. *Ratification of Rates :* Award of Court final.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	Homework Act of 12 December 1919.	*Trades :* Any home or out-work trade.[1] Workshop trades in which machinery set up for regulating wages of homeworkers also covered. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* National trade boards with local boards for advisory purposes where necessary. *Membership :* At least nine; employers, workers and impartial persons equally represented. *Ratification of Rates :* By Minister of Social Welfare.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC	Homework Act of 8 October 1918.[2]	*Trades :* Any homework occupation except domestic service. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* Local trade boards. *Membership :* Number not specified; one impartial member chairman. *Ratification of Rates :* None required.

[1] Immediate application provided for in the case of homework in the textile trades, clothing (including boots and shoes), glass, and mother of pearl manufacture,

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES -*contd.*

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
In conformity with principles of equity. Account to be taken of superior interests of production.	*Juveniles :* No special provision. Court may fix lower minima. *Sub-standard workes :* As above.	*Authority :* Ministry of Corporations and provincial prefects. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine and imprisonment.
Account to be taken of wages current for similar work in workshops and factories and for homework in other trades Minima to be fixed in relation to earning capacity of workers of average skill and to be such that homework is not driven out of existence.	*Juveniles :* No provision. *Sub-standard workers :* No provision.	*Authority :* For homework, the health councils; for other work generally the factory inspection authority. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine.
Not specified.	*Juveniles .* No provision in law. Court may fix special rates in award. *Sub-standard workers :* As above.	*Authority :* Minister of Labour. *Inspectors :* Minister may appoint special staff. *Penalty :* Fine.
Not specified. Account to be taken of differences in local conditions and competition between different districts. In certain circumstances, collective agreements remain valid though contrary to trade board determination, but either party may withdraw from such agreement after six weeks' notice.	*Juveniles :* No provision. *Sub-standard workers :* No provision.	*Authority :* District industrial authorities. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine. Employers, middlemen and other intermediaries punished for breach of wage determination or agreement may, if convicted again, be excluded from acting in such capacity.
Account to be taken of nature of work, price of finished article, cost of living, wages of factory and workshop workers in district producing similar article, value of accessories or tools required by worker.	*Juveniles :* No provision. *Sub-standard workers :* No provision.	*Authority :* National Department of Labour. *Inspectors .* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine.

[2] In 1923, Acts were passed by the provincial legislatures of Tucuman and San Juan respectively fixing statutory minima for various categories of workers.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
CANADA [1] **Nova Scotia** **Quebec** **Ontario** **Manitoba** **Saskatchewan** **Alberta** **British Columbia**	Laws passed in the seven Provinces during the years 1917-1920. Various amendments of original legislation.	*Trades:* Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Ontario, all except farm work and domestic service[2]; Alberta, all except domestic service, in twelve specified towns; Manitoba and Saskatchewan, all in shops (including hotels) and factories; Quebec, all in industrial undertakings. *Persons:* Females only except British Columbia and Alberta; British Columbia, females and men[3]; Alberta, men not to be paid less than minimum for women on similar work.	*Type:* General boards, usually with advisory trade boards or conferences. *Membership:* General boards, three or five, usually including one or more women; Manitoba and Alberta provide for representation of employers and workers. *Ratification of Rates:* Decisions of general boards final.
UNITED STATES [5] **Arkansas** **California** **Colorado** **Massachusetts** **Minnesota** **North Dakota** **Porto Rico**[6] **Oregon** **Utah** **Washington** **Wisconsin**[7] **South Dakota**	Laws passed in the seventeen States during the years 1912-1923. Various amendments of original legislation. Certain laws repealed, several declared unconstitutional.	*Trades:* In most States, any trade; North Dakota, all except farm work and domestic service; Porto Rico, industrial, commercial, and public service; South Dakota, any in factories, commercial, laundry, hotel, restaurant or packing house; Arkansas, any in factories, commercial, laundry or transportation. *Persons:* In most States, females and male minors; Arkansas, Porto Rico, South Dakota and Utah, females.	*Type:* Porto Rico, South Dakota and Utah, minima fixed by legislature; remaining States, general boards or branch of State Department, usually with advisory trade boards or conferences. *Membership:* General boards, three or five where number specified; in certain States, one or more women to be included (Arkansas, California); Arkansas, Colorado, Massachusetts, Oregon provide for the representation of employers and workers. *Ratification of Rates:* Usually decision of general board, or other wage-fixing body, final.

[1] In addition to the laws summarised here, mention should be made of the Nova Scotia Industrial Peace Act, 1925, which provides for compulsory arbitration as a last resort, primarily in mining and public utility undertakings.

[2] In British Columbia, male and female fruit pickers, and male fruit packers, fruit and vegetable canners are excluded.

[3] One law applies to females and a second to men.

[4] Special minima generally fixed also for adult learners and part-time workers; many Provinces limit the proportion of such workers in any establishment,

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—*contd.*

Basis for fixing minimum rate	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Saskatchewan, necessary cost of living. Manitoba, necessary cost of living and to maintain health. British Columbia (females), expedient for welfare. Quebec, rates fixed where wages insufficient. Alberta, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia (men), no basis stated in legislation.	*Juveniles :* Special minima [4]; in various Provinces, number limited. *Sub-standard workers :* Exemption; Quebec, Saskatchewan, British Columbia (females), physical handicap; Nova Scotia, physical or mental handicap; other Provinces, any handicap. Permits issued in some Provinces, number limited.	*Authority :* Usually general boards; Saskatchewan, Bureau of Labour *Inspectors :* Usually special staff. *Penalty :* Fine.
Women workers : In most States, necessary cost of living, maintenance of health and welfare; Massachusetts, both cost of living and financial condition of industry; Utah, basis not specified. *Minors :* Same basis with few exceptions, in which cases wage to be suitable or not unreasonably low.	*Juveniles :* Special minima in most States, also for inexperienced adults; in certain States, number limited. *Sub-standard workers :* Exemption in most States for physical or mental handicap. Permits issued. In some States, number limited.	*Authority :* General board, or other wage-fixing body, with few exceptions. *Inspectors :* Usually special staff. *Penalty :* Massachussetts, publicity only[8], other States, fine.

[5] The position of minimum wage legislation in the United States has been rendered uncertain by decisions of the Federal Supreme Court declaring the laws of the District of Columbia and those of Arizona to be unconstitutional.

[6] The Courts of Porto Rico accepted the decision regarding the District of Columbia law as controlling the legislation enacted in Porto Rico.

[7] The United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin ruled that the decision regarding the District of Columbia law made it impossible for the Wisconsin Statute to regulate the wage of adult females.

[8] The penalty of publicity is the only penalty in cases of underpayment. Fines may be imposed for failure to post wage schedules or to keep adequate wage records and submit them to inspection.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
MEXICO	Federal Constitution 1917. State Labour and Minimum Wage Laws, various dates.	*Trades :* All trades. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* General board in each municipality. *Membership :* Various. In certain States 3-7 members including employers' and workers' representatives ; in several other States an impartial person, with one employer and one worker from each industry. *Ratification of Rates :* By Central Board of Conciliation and Arbitration in each State.
URUGUAY	Agricultural Minimum Wage Act, 15 February 1923.	*Trades :* Agricultural or cattle breeding on estates assessed for real estate tax at over 20 000 pesos. *Persons :* Workers over 16 years of age.	*Type :* Minima fixed by legislature.
AUSTRALIA **Commonwealth** **New South Wales** **Queensland** **South Australia** **Tasmania** **Victoria** **Western Australia**	Laws passed by Parliaments of Commonwealth and the six States during years 1896-1910. Numerous amendments of original legislation.	*Trades :* Commonwealth, any in which inter-State dispute occurs ; New South Wales, any trade ; Queensland, any except domestic service and farm work ; South Australia, Tasmania, any except farm work, Victoria, any except Government service ; Western Australia, any except domestic service where not more than six boarders and/or lodgers. *Persons :* Male and female workers.	*Type :* Victoria, Tasmania, trade boards Commonwealth, Arbitration Court. South Australia, General Board, trade boards and Abitration Court. Western Australia, New South Wales, Queensland, same body acts as Arbitration Court and General Board ; trade boards also established. *Membership :* Trade boards, generally 2 to 10 representative members, and impartial chairman. Arbitration courts and general boards, generally three or five ; on some employers and workers represented. *Ratification of Rates :* Tasmania, decisions of boards final ; Victoria, objections examined by Court of Industrial Appeals. In other States, decisions of courts and general boards usually final. Where court and trade boards both established, appeals from decisions of boards go to Court.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—*contd.*

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Wage adequate to satisfy normal needs, including education and legitimate pastimes of worker considered as head of family. Principle of equal pay for equal work without regard to sex or nationality recognised.	*Juveniles :* Generally no provision. Certain State laws allow exceptions to standard minimum when circumstances make it advisable. *Sub-standard workers :* As for juveniles.	*Authority :* Not specified. *Inspectors :* Generally ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Generally not specified.
Higher minima for workers 18 to 55 years of age on large than on small estates. In addition to money wages, employer shall furnish all workers with healthy accommodation and sufficient food, or specified money equivalent.	*Juveniles :* Law fixes lower minimum for workers 16 to 18 years of age than for workers 18 to 55. *Sub-standard workers :* Local authorities may issue licences fixing special minima for workers handicapped by physical defect, infirmity, or other disability. Law fixes lower minima for workers over 55 years of age than for workers 18 to 55.	*Authority :* Labour Department. *Inspectors :* Ordinary staff. *Penalty :* Fine.
Commonwealth, no definite basis specified in law; living wage principle applied in practice. Victoria, Tasmania, basis indefinite; Court of Industrial Appeals of Victoria to take account of conditions of industry and cost of living. Queensland, living wage, having regard to conditions of living prevailing in calling. South Australia, Western Australia, New South Wales, living wage.	*Juveniles :* Special minima. Proportion of apprentices often limited; also of other learners. *Sub-standard workers :* Permits issued to workers handicapped by infirmity. Proportion often limited.	*Authority :* Some States, the Arbitration Court; others, Department responsible for factory inspection; others, specially appointed official (registrar). *Inspectors .* Ordinary staff in Victoria and Western Australia; special staff may be appointed in other States. *Penalty :* Fine.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
NEW ZEALAND	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925.	*Trades:* All trades. *Persons:* Male and female workers	*Type:* Court of Arbitration. *Membership:* Judge and two other members, one nominated by employers' associations and one by workers' unions. *Ratification of Rates:* Awards of Court final.
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	Wage Act of 25 July 1925.	*Trades:* All trades except in agriculture, horticulture, pastoral or forestry work, domestic service, or occupations governed by Acts relative to Public Service, Railways or Harbours Determinations under Act do not apply to employers and workers covered by awards or agreements under Industrial Conciliation Act, 1924. *Persons:* Male and female workers.	*Type:* General Board, with divisions for different trades. *Membership:* General Board, three members; for investigation in any trade, Minister may appoint not more than two additional members.[1] If Board desires, or representative group of employers or workers nominates, one such additional member shall represent employers, and one, the workers. Division, three members, one of whom may be member of Board; additional members as above. *Ratification of Rates:* Minister fixes rate in accordance with recommendation of Board and examines objections lodged within given period.

[1] "Minister" means Minister of Labour or other Minister charged with the administration of the Act.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—*concld.*

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Not specified in law. In practice, fair standard of living; subject to this, account taken of conditions of industry and nature of work.	*Juveniles.* Special minima. *Sub-standard workers:* Permits to work at special rates.	*Authority:* Minister of Labour. *Inspectors:* Ordinary staff. *Penalty:* Fine.
Cost of living and financial condition of industry. If Board finds cannot recommend, for any trade, wage for maintenance on civilised standard, it shall report this to Minister. Minister may then direct Board to make recommendation.	*Juveniles:* Special minima[2]. Proportion may be limited. *Sub-standard workers:* Permits exempting persons handicapped by physical disability such as old age or infirmity.	*Authority:* Minister. *Inspectors:* Minister may designate any officers in public service as inspectors under the Act. *Penalty:* Fine.

[2] An Act of 1922 provides for regulation of conditions of apprenticeship. The Industrial Conciliation Act, 1924, includes provision for compulsory arbitration as a last resort in cases of dispute in public utility undertakings.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 4, APRIL 1927. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles. (1) *International Labour Legislation in the Light of Economic Theory, by Herbert Feis (Professor of Economics, University of Cincinnati, U. S. A.).* pp. 491-518.

(2) *The Austrian Works Councils Act in Practice : II, by Dr. Emanuel Adler (Professor in the University of Vienna.)*—Objections to dismissal; immunity of members of the works council; liability of the works council to damages for breach of duty; conclusion. pp. 519-546.

(3) *Vocational Guidance in Great Britain, by Charles E. Clift (Ex-Chairman, Salford Juvenile Employment Committee; Honorary Secretary, Salford Lads' Club; Secretary, League of Nations, Manchester)*—The pioneer work of voluntary agencies; juvenile employment before the war; juvenile employment during the war; juvenile employment since the war; historical survey of official activities; the existing position; conclusion. pp. 547-567.

(4) *Industrial Unionism in the Building Trades of the United States, by E. E. Cummins, Ph.D. (Yale), of the Department of Economics the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, U. S. A.* pp. 568-580.

(5) *Filipino Labour in Hawaii*—Statistics; recruitment; conditions of employment on plantations; conditions in towns; conclusions. pp. 581-586

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 100, APRIL 1927. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Welfare in a Country Mill.* pp. 111-115.

(2) *The Steam Road Driver—Benefits in the Sentinel Club notwithstanding "no rules or subscriptions"; five thousand members.* pp. 115-116.

(3) *An Edinburgh Staff Hostel.* pp. 116-120.

(4) *Education and Entertainment.* pp. 120-121.

(5) *A Staff Benefit Society*—Payments; limit of insurance; benefits; claims for sick pay; members leaving the company's service; division of funds; notifications to secretary. pp. 121-122.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 4, APRIL 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Silicosis of the South African Gold Mines, and the Changes Produced in it by Legislative and Administrative Efforts, by W. Watkins-Pitchford, M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), (Director of the South African Institute for Medical Research; Chairman of the Miners' Phthisis Medical Bureau, Johannesburg; Honorary Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, University of the Witwatersrand.)*—Local circumstances; name of the disease; causation; latent silicosis; clinical forms of silicosis : simple silicosis, tuberculosis with silicosis, tuberculo-silicosis and silico-tuberculosis; liability of simple silicosis to become overtly tuberculosis; apparent immunity of the wife; changes which characterize simple silicosis; changes which characterise tuberculosis with silicosis; detection of silicosis during life : simple silicosis, tuberculosis with silicosis, differential diagnosis; detection of silicosis after death; effective period; incidence : working miners, native laborers; constitutional and racial susceptibility to silicosis; special hazard of certain underground occupations; stages of silicosis : from the clinical aspect, from the legal aspect; prognosis; efforts to prevent silicosis : mechanical precautions, medical precautions; changes in character and incidence of compensable lung diseases : improvement in general standard of health, effect of initial examination, reductions in incidence of all forms of pulmonary tuberculosis, appearance of simple silicosis in less severe form, increased prospects of survival in cases of simple silicosis, lengthening of effective period, decrease in extent and number of silicotic lesions found postmortem; other diseases among mine workers; future progress. pp. 109-139.

(2) *Experimental Electric Shock, by R W. Ian Urquhart, M.A., M.B. (of the Laboratory of Physiology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada).*—Introduction; Review; present investigation : equipment, effects of current; artificial respiration; countershock; graphic records; cause of phenomena observed—circulatory system, nervous system; summary; conclusions. pp. 140-166.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 11. MARCH 1927. (The Trades Union Congress, and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Twenty-one Years' Hard Labour by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 483 and 484.

(2) *Trade Unionism Under Attack. IV.—The Right to Picket, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress).* pp. 485-487.

(3) *Housing Legislation and its Results, by R. Coppock (General Secretary, National Federation of Building Trades Operatives).* pp. 488-492.
(4) *How I Became a Socialist Last Week, by R. B. Suthers.* pp. 493-495.
(5) *" Colour " Problems of the Empire, by Major D. Graham Pole (Hon. Secretary of the British Committee on Indian Affairs).* pp. 496-499.
(6) *Education and Industry, by Barbara Wootton, M.A. (Principal of the Morley College for Working Men and Women).* pp. 500 and 501.
(7) *Memories and Reflections, by Propagandist.* pp. 508-510.
(8) *Research and Agricultural Policy, by A. W. Ashby.* pp. 517-519.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 12, APRIL 1927. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Parliamentary Labour Party Comes of Age, by J. S. M.* pp. 531-535.
(2) *Trade Unionism Under Attack—V Picketing and the Political Levy, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress).* pp. 536-539
(3) *The Colwyn Report—Labour Proposes an Alternative to the Capital Levy, by F. W. Pethick-Lawrence, M.P.* pp. 540-542.
(4) *Memories and Reflections, by Propagandist.* pp. 543-545.
(5) *In the " Eight-fifteen "—Lord Oxford has an Idea, by T. S. Dickson* pp. 546-548.
(6) *The New Balkan Problem by David Mitrany (Special Correspondent for South-East Europe of Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.* pp. 549-551.
(7) *The Valley of Sorrow—Among the miners of Cwm, by W. M. C.* pp. 556-559.
(8) *American Adventures in Communism, by Edward Levinson (Assistant Editor, " The New Leader," U. S. A.).* pp. 560-562.
Rountine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 3, MARCH 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles : (1) *Report of Board in Dispute between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and its Clerks, Freight Handlers, Station Employees, etc* —Report of Board ; minority report. pp. 259-263.
(2) *Old Age Pension Bill Before Parliament of Canada—Minister of Labour Outlines Provisions of Government Measure.*—Statement by Minister of Labour ; bill passed in House of Commons. pp. 268-271.
(3) *Minimum Wages for Women in Quebec—Issue of Order Number 2, Governing Laundries, etc., Outside Montreal District.*—Maximum of inexperienced workers ; overtime ; lost time ; deductions for absence ; waiting ; permits ; penalties ; posting. pp. 271-272.
(4) *Workmen's Compensation in the Province of Quebec—New Act to be effective on April, 1.*—Division I—Compensation ; division II—liability ; division III—procedure. pp 272-275
(5) *Report of Manitoba Bureau of Labour for Fiscal Year ending April 30, 1926.*—Maximum Wages ; accidents ; accident prevention and first aid ; fair wages under government contracts ; unemployment relief. pp. 276-277.
(6) *Labour and Industry in Saskatchewan*—Industrial accidents : manufacturing industries ; coal mining ; other industries ; employment service ; labour legislation ; minimum wages : shops and stores ; laundries and factories ; mail order houses ; all establishments except hotels, restaurants and refreshment rooms ; hotels, restaurants and refreshment rooms in cities. pp. 278-279.
(7) *The Mining Industry in Nova Scotia in 1926.* pp. 280-281
(8) *Rock-Dusting in Alberta Coal Mines—New Regulations Providing against Danger of Coal Dust Explosions.* pp. 281-282.
(9) *Annual Report of the National Research Council of Canada.* pp. 283-284.
(10) *Report of Committee on Unemployment Insurance in Great Britain.*—Alleged abuses of the " dole " ; a contributary scheme : unemployment fund, scope, rates of benefit, conditions for the receipt of benefit, contributions, administration ; trade cycles. pp. 284-285.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The 13th International Congress of Agriculture will be held in Rome from 23 to 28 May 1927.

The programme includes :

" The Position of Agriculture and the Work of Agricultural Associations ";

" The Scientific Organisation of Agricultural Work ";

" Women's Organisations in Rural Districts and Allied Subjects." (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 21, 1927.*)

UNITED KINGDOM

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in March was 22. In addition, 13 disputes which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in March (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 14,000 ; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during March was about 137,000 working days. (*From " Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.*)

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At 1st April the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 65 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 71 per cent. a month ago and 68 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 55, 62 and 59, respectively.

The index number for 1st April is the lowest recorded since January 1917 ; the fall since 1st March is mainly due to decreases, largely seasonal, in the prices of eggs, milk and butter, and to reductions in the prices of coal and gas from the abnormal levels which resulted from the coal-mining stoppage. (*From " Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.*)

* * * * * *

While employment in a number of important industries remained very bad during March, there was nevertheless, in industry generally, a pronounced improvement throughout the month. A satisfactory feature was a substantial decrease in the numbers of insured persons recorded as wholly unemployed. The improvement in employment occurred principally in tailoring, pottery, and earthenware manufacture, general and marine engineering, shipbuilding, building and public works contracting, the cotton industry, and textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. In the coal-mining industry there was a reduction in the numbers recorded as wholly unemployed, but this was more than counterbalanced by an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped from the service of their employers.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great

Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together at 21st March 1927, was 9·9 as compared with 10·9 at 21st February 1927 and 9·8 at 22nd March 1926. The percentage wholly unemployed declined from 8·8 at 21st February to 7·9 at 21st March. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th March 1927, was approximately 1,115,000 of whom 905,000 were men and 153,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th February 1927, it was 1,208,000 of whom 970,000 were men and 172,000 were women; and at 29th March 1926, it was 1,070,000 of whom 842,000 were men and 175,000 were women. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.*)

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In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in March resulted in an aggregate net increase of nearly £47,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 200,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of nearly £24,000 in those of 148,000 workpeople. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.*)

* * * * * *

For the past few years the cost-of-living sliding-scale as a method of adjusting wage rates has been subject to criticism on the ground that it involves, in several industries, an apparently unnecessary variation in wages at comparatively frequent intervals of three or six months on account of seasonal fluctuations in the price of certain articles of food, mainly eggs, milk and butter. In a few industries, writes a correspondent, this objection has been largely responsible for alterations in the arrangements for adjusting wages. In the wool textile industry the sliding-scale method was abandoned some time ago, though the agreements indicate that there may be a reversion to the method if circumstances warrant it. More recently, in the building industry, it has been arranged that the adjustment of wage rates shall be based on the average of the index numbers over a period of twelve months, instead of six months, as formerly. In the boot and shoe industry, also, adjustments now take place at yearly intervals. Recent events have brought into prominence another undesirable feature of the sliding-scale method. In certain cases workers are at present in receipt of increases in wages as a direct result of the disaster of the coal stoppage, which caused a temporary inflation in the cost-of-living index number mainly owing to the rise in the price of household coal and gas. It is somewhat hazardous to estimate what would have been the index number if there had been no coal stoppage, but it is fairly certain that it would not have been sufficiently high in the latter part of 1926 to warrant the increases in wages which have taken place recently in the railway service, the textile bleaching and dyeing industry, the electrical contracting industry, and in the Civil Service. The increase in the latter case may be regarded as an additional charge on the Exchequer resulting directly from the dispute. It is becoming more clear that the value of the sensitive cost-of-living sliding-scale has now

passed, and that there is much to be said in favour of stabilising that part of wage rates which fluctuates with the index number until there is a substantial variation, say of 10 points in either direction from the level of about 70 per cent. above that of 1914. (*From "Economist," London, March 5, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

Since the inception of the Unemployment Grants Committee in Great Britain in December 1920, it has approved more than 11,900 schemes for State assistance to the extent of about £40,000,000. (*From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, March 1927.*)

* * * * * *

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In the Irish Free State an Act of 1926 excludes from unemployment insurance teachers in secondary schools, assistant mistresses beginning in elementary schools, lay assistant teachers in the elementary sectarian schools and in the convents, and needlework instructresses and manual work instructors in the elementary schools.

The classes of workers thus excluded are exempted from the charges, as well as deprived of the advantages, of unemployment insurance. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

The French Government recently informed the Secretary General of the League of Nations of the measures it has taken in connection with the Recommendation adopted at the Sixth Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva 1924) concerning the utilisation of workers' spare time.

The development of facilities for the utilisation of spare time is ensured by the general application to all workers in industrial and commercial undertakings of the Act of 23 April 1919 on the eight hour day. The Government has already issued fiftyfour administrative regulations to ensure enforcement of this Act. Thus "out of about 10,000,000 workers in commercial and industrial undertakings, the number of salaried workers or employees who have still to be brought under the regulations based upon the eight hour day and the fortyeight hour week system may be estimated at 500,000 at most." (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service, No. 45, Geneva.*)

* * * * * *

The number of unemployed among intellectual workers in Poland was 22,500 at the beginning of February 1927. This figure is about 10 per cent. of the total number of unemployed registered at that time.

On 11th January the Government issued a Decree regulating the grant of emergency unemployment relief to those intellectual workers who were no longer entitled, or had never been entitled, to the statutory allowances under the Insurance Act. The Decree provides that the emergency relief may not exceed 100 *zloty* for unemployed persons with a family of more than five persons dependent on them, 55 *zloty* for unemployed persons who have to keep two persons, and 45 *zloty* for single persons. In each case the allowance will be calculated according to the wages actually received in the period immediately preceding unemployment.

The Decree also provides that emergency relief may not be granted to unemployed persons who lost their employment before 31st December 1923.

In this connection mention may be made of the initiation by the municipality of Warsaw of a certain number of public works, in which 200 unemployed intellectual workers will be employed throughout the year in clerical work. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

The number of intellectual workers unemployed in Germany is estimated at 200,000 out of a total of about 1,600,000 unemployed. Theatrical artists would seem to be particularly affected. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.*)

UNITED STATES

According to the Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions, the total amount of the deposits in Labour Banks in the United States on the 30th June 1926 was nearly $111,000,000.

The total number of banks is now thirtysix. (*From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, March 1927.*)

OTHER COUNTRIES

It is reported that the Japanese Bureau of Social Affairs proposes to draft a Bill for the protection of mining workers, and that this protection is necessary would appear from the following figures relating to accidents in Japanese mines. During 1925 there were 223,236 workers of both sexes involved in accidents, of whom 840 died. 190,487 men and 31,456 women were injured and 900 men and 393 women suffered from sickness. According to the figures for the end of June 1926, the total number of workers employed was 289,201 which, shows that the rate of accidents is exceedingly high. The above figures include not only serious accidents, but also accidents or sickness which did not involve more than thirty days' disability, to which category more than 200,000 cases belong. (*From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, March 1927.*)

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The Japanese Government Delegation to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office states that an Act which gives effect to the *Convention fixing the minimum age for the admission of young persons to employment as trimmers or stokers* (Geneva, 1921) was passed by the Diet and promulgated on 24th February 1927. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 21, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

According to returns received from 383 unions, with a membership of 441,560, there were 25,351 unemployed during the December quarter, 1926, representing an unemployment rate of 5·7 per cent. Industrial disputes during the September quarter, 1926, numbered 80, which involved 21,773 workpeople, whose estimated loss of wages amounted to £155,317. Changes in rates of wages affected 346,837 workpeople, the net increase in wages a week amounting to £35,091. (*From "Queensland Industrial Gazette," Brisbane, March 24, 1927.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN APRIL 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. Shri Ambika Mills, Ltd., Kankaria, Ahmedabad.	128	..	30 Mar	1 April	Sympathy with a dismissed jobber and protest against the system of giving damaged cloth in lieu of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	175	..	2 April	6 April	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Gujarath Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	200	..	26 April	27 April	Damaged cloth given in lieu of wages.	The strike ended in a compromise.
Miscellaneous						
4. The Western India Match Factory, Ambernath.	1,235	..	8 April	12 April	Proposal to make alterations in the piece work rates of wages.	The strike ended in a compromise.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES*

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I. Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	75 (b)	95 (a)	43	56 (a)	4	3	41	64	75	86	120	153
Woollen Mills .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	1	3	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	4	2	5
Total ..	76	98	44	58	..	3	42	65	76	90	122	158
II. Workshops—												
Engineering ..	12	3	73	73	..	1	14	7	71	68	85	76
Railway ..	32	60	326	259	..	1	42	32	316	286	358	319
Mint ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	2	2 (a)	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	3	2
Total ..	45	65	401	332	..	2	58	39	389	356	447	397
III. Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Printing Presses..	1	1	3	..	..	..	3	..	1	1	4	1
Others ..	3	5	2 (a)	4	..	..	3	4	3	5	6	9
Total ..	4	6	5	4	..	..	6	4	4	6	10	10
Total, All Factories .	125	169	450	394	4	5	106	108	469	452	579	565

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I. Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	33	50(a)	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
Total ..	33	50	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
II. Miscellaneous—												
Match Factories..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Total, All Factories ..	35	50	27	25	1	1	32	41	29	34	62	76

* The figures for January and February have been revised; and those for March and April are preliminary.
Explanation.—(a) 2 persons injured by one accident.
(b) 3 persons injured by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES—(*contd.*)

3. Karachi City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..	..	3	4	2	..	..	..	..	4	5	4	5
Engineering ..	..	..	.	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Total ..	..	3	4	3	..	..	..	1	4	5	4	6
II. Miscellaneous— ..	2	..	3	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total ..	2	..	3	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total, All Factories ..	2	3	7	4	..	..	1	2	8	5	9	7

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1917	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I Textile Mills—			(*d*)									
Cotton Mills ..	13	20	12 (*a*)	7	13	1	15	16	10	10	38	27
Others ..	2	6	..	4	..	..	1	5	1	5	2	10
Total ..	15	26	12	11	13	1	16	21	11	15	40	37
II. Workshops—												
Railway ..	5	7	57	46	..	..	11	4	51	49	62	53
Arms and Ammuntion ..	1	..	5	2	..	..	2	..	4	2	6	2
Others ..	1	2	2	2	..	..	1	2	2	2	3	4
Total ..	7	9	64	50	..	..	14	6	57	53	71	59
III. Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories ..	5	3	5 (*c*)	1	6	..	2	2	5	2	13	4
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	2	3	7	5	1	..	3	5	5	3	9	8
Total ..	7	6	12	6	7	..	5	7	10	5	22	12
Total, All Factories ..	29	41	88	67	20	1	35	34	78	73	133	108

Explanation :—(*a*) 2 persons injured by one of the accidents.
(*c*) 4 persons injured by one of the accidents.
(*d*) 13 persons injured by one of the accidents.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ,, ..	5,986	6,968	6,393	68,944	66,337	82,549
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ,, ..	19,838	18,737	18,922	226,242	197,165	226,172
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ,, ..	13,034	14,529	15,265	159,052	140,333	171,683
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ,, ..	1,106	1,518	1,629	14,176	13,576	19,684
Above 40 .. ,, ..	401	646	975	5,682	5,422	10,677
Waste, etc. .. ,, ..	81	83	99	196	618	1,257
Total ..	40,446	42,481	43,283	474,292	423,451	512,022

BOMBAY CITY

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ,, ..	5,331	6,286	5,643	61,164	56,981	72,798
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ,, ..	13,692	12,473	12,816	156,150	116,959	153,361
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ,, ..	8,290	8,859	9,242	98,954	79,114	104,049
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ,, ..	556	656	764	7,961	5,885	9,201
Above 40 .. ,, ..	241	234	455	3,212	2,503	4,307
Waste, etc. .. ,, ..	72	74	89	101	520	1,143
Total ..	28,182	28,582	29,009	327,542	261,962	344,859

AHMEDABAD

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ,, ..	192	212	191	2,394	3,016	2,560
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ,, ..	3,288	3,527	3,480	37,264	44,783	40,002
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ,, ..	3,686	4,366	4,728	45,803	47,050	50,260
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ,, ..	430	647	610	4,949	5,766	8,261
Above 40 .. ,, ..	120	305	373	1,596	2,126	4,825
Waste, etc. .. ,, ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,716	9,057	9,382	92,006	102,741	105,908

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi " ..	945	867	1,070	15,321	13,372	21,328
Chudders " ..	1,288	1,069	1,067	15,943	16,602	17,224
Dhotis " ..	6,646	7,373	7,159	72,037	80,905	89,841
Drills and jeans " ..	1,429	1,281	1,345	12,485	10,667	13,369
Cambrics and lawns " ..	38	16	22	593	520	351
Printers " ..	298	424	226	4,121	3,037	2,078
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	10,183	9,203	9,629	100,107	97,738	109,517
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	1,100	802	1,530	12,090	11,817	16,995
Tent cloth " ..	162	128	89	2,138	1,575	1,341
Other sorts " ..	540	702	631	6,373	6,235	5,628
Total " ..	22,629	21,865	22,768	241,208	242,468	277,672
Coloured piece-goods " ..	8,268	8,389	10,608	102,566	94,546	121,786
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods " ..	203	269	182	1,919	2,514	2,635
Hosiery " ..	10	16	27	185	243	274
Miscellaneous " ..	82	63	245	1,659	1,606	2,900
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	16	88	234	135	653	2,016
Grand Total " ..	31,208	30,690	34,064	347,672	342,030	407,283

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi " ..	772	734	923	10,809	9,723	18,544
Chudders " ..	780	652	722	9,847	10,408	11,795
Dhotis " ..	1,968	2,155	2,179	21,116	21,855	28,058
Drills and jeans " ..	1,346	1,145	1,242	11,311	9,019	12,229
Cambrics and lawns " ..	20	9	15	447	223	75
Printers " ..	..	219	..	33	238	..
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	7,687	6,743	7,536	71,844	68,865	84,778
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	881	520	1,277	9,692	8,019	12,477
Tent cloth " ..	96	87	84	931	979	1,155
Other sorts " ..	207	368	348	2,795	2,667	3,184
Total " ..	13,757	12,632	14,326	138,825	131,996	172,295
Coloured piece-goods " ..	5,615	5,235	7,088	78,162	63,429	86,482
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods " ..	197	263	178	1,851	2,409	2,542
Hosiery " ..	6	6	7	91	76	67
Miscellaneous " ..	77	58	198	1,348	1,281	2,362
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	16	28	132	115	468	1,371
Grand Total " ..	19,668	18,222	21,929	220,392	199,659	265,119

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—contd.

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi ,, ..	100	29	19	3,201	1,100	751
Chudders ,, ..	421	325	292	4,752	4,826	4,241
Dhotis ,, ..	3,374	4,331	4,077	39,536	47,111	50,574
Drills and jeans ,, .	25	34	37	268	667	322
Cambrics and lawns ,, .	13	5	6	123	219	269
Printers ,, .	188	169	132	2,812	1,883	1,080
Shirtings and long cloth ,, .	1,975	1,920	1,571	22,772	22,821	18,417
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings ,, ..	190	212	190	2,160	3,313	3,532
Tent cloth ,, ..	63	30	..	1,105	499	21
Other sorts ,, .	233	238	192	2,346	2,486	1,432
Total ,, .	6,582	7,293	6,516	79,075	84,925	80,639
Coloured piece-goods , ..	1,820	2,266	2,346	14,239	20,124	22,629
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ,, .	1	2	2	9	13	19
Hosiery ,, .	4	10	20	94	166	205
Miscellaneous ,, ..	6	4	44	262	276	482
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ,, ..	..	59	99	8	174	627
Grand Total ,, ..	8,413	9,634	9,027	93,687	105,678	104,601

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	April 1926	Mar. 1927	April 1927	July 1914	April 1926	Mar. 1927	April 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 4 11	6 3 1	100	137	134	132
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6		7 12 0	7 12 3	100	..	139	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	74 0 0	91 0 0	69 0 0	100	164	202	153
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	55 0 0	54 8 0	55 8 0	100	138	136	139
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 5 5 (1)	4 7 1 (1)	100	131	137	141
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 5 5	4 7 1	4 5 5	100	132	135	132
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 4 8	4 15 7	4 10 6	100	161	152	142
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	144	148	140
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 13 11	4 13 11	4 10 6	100	115	115	110
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	6 14 1	8 7 5	7 15 0	100	122	150	140
Index No.—Pulses ..							100	119	133	125
Index No.—Food grains ..							100	138	144	136
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	15 14 0			100	173	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	16 0 0	17 0 0	16 5 0	100	157	167	160
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	9 8 5	8 2 7	8 7 0	100	121	103	107
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	150	135	134
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapur ..	Maund	5 9 3	8 13 6	8 11 4	8 13 6	100	159	156	159
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	78 9 2	74 4 7	74 4 7	100	172	163	163
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 0 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	136	128	128
Index No.—Other food ..							100	156	149	150
Index No.—All Food ..							100	144	144	139
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt	8 14 6	10 7 0	10 10 0	10 15 0	100	117	119	123
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	11 12 0	11 2 0	11 6 0	100	147	139	142
Poppy seed			10 14 0	13 2 0	17 8 0	16 8 0	100	12	161	152
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	15 12 0	17 12 0	17 4 0	100	140	158	153
Index No.—Oilseeds ..					...		100	131	144	143

Textiles—Cotton—											
(a) Cotton, raw—											
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	348 0 0	307 0 0	295 0 0	100	139	122	118	
Oomra	Do.	,,	222 0 0	319 0 0	291 0 0 (2)	2.0 0 0 2	100	144	131	126	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	,,	230 0 0				100	..	..	..	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	,,	205 0 0	284 0 0	283 0 0	272 0 0	100	139	138	133	
Bengal	Do.	,,	198 0 0	256 0 0	274 0 0	269 0 0	100	129	138	136	
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	138	132	128	
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 1 6	1 0 3	100	149	137	127	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	10 0 0	8 14 0	8 12 0	100	168	149	147	
White mulls	6,000	,,	4 3 0	9 10 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	230	215	215	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	,,	10 6 0	20 0 0	18 8 0	18 8 0	100	193	178	178	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 9	0 14 9	0 14 9	100	187	155	155	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	,,	0 9 6	1 0 3	0 13 6	0 13 6	100	171	142	142	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	183	163	161	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	165	151	148	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 7 3	6 0 9	6 4 0	100	125	117	121	
Do.	Mathow Lari	,,	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 7 0	4 7 0	100	160	151	151	
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	143	134	136	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 12 8	1 8 2	1 9 6	100	155	131	138	
Do Buffalo	Do.	,,	1 1 3	1 7 9	0 13 7	1 1 1	100	138	79	99	
Skins, Goat	Do.	,,	1 4 0	2 11 10	2 8 5	2 6 1	100	219	201	190	
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	171	137	142	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	59 0 0	58 8 0	56 0 0	100	98	97	93	
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169	
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	10 0 0	10 2 0	10 0 0	100	129	131	129	
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	14 6 0	13 5 0	12 14 0	100	160	148	143	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	20 8 0	18 8 0	100	194	234	211	
Index No.—Metals							100	151	156	149	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	19 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	129	142	142	
Do.	Imported	,,	19 11 6	22 12 6	26 10 4	22 6 9	100	116	135	114	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	170	175	175	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles						..	100	150	161	156	
Index No.—Food							100	144	144	139	
Index No.—Non-food							100	155	149	147	
General Index No.							100	151	148	144	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality. (2) Quotation for Oomra, Fine.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Apr 1926	Mar 1927	Apr. 1927	July 1914	Apr. 1926	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927
			Rs a. p.	Rs a p.	Rs a. p.	Rs. a p				
Cereals—				(1)	(2)	(3)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	58 4 0	60 4 0	61 12 0	100	149	154	158
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red ..	,,	31 8 0	48 0 0	42 0 0	43 0 0	100	152	133	137
,, red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red ..	,,	31 4 0	47 0 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	150	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	49 8 0	43 4 0	44 6 0	100	152	133	137
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	48 8 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	150	127	127
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	43 0 0	37 0 0	38 0 0	100	169	145	149
Barley	3% dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	31 0 0	34 8 0	34 12 0	100	117	130	131
Index No.—Cereals ..			...		..		100	148	136	138
Pulses—					(2)	(2)				
Gram	1% dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	35 8 0	46 0 0	35 8 0	100	120	136	120
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white ..	Cwt	9 2 0	15 6 6	15 4 0	15 10 0	100	169	167	171
,, ...	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6	. .	14 8 0	14 10 0	100	..	179	181
Index No.—Sugar ..			. .		.		100	169	173	176
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	100	79	79	79
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 8 0	3 12 0	3 13 0	100	129	139	141
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0		..	70 8 0	100	..	..	138
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture ..	,,	62 0 0	95 0 0	99 0 0	102 0 0	100	153	160	165
Index No —Oilseeds ..					..		100	141	150	148
Textiles—										
Jute bags ..	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	59 8 0	52 8 0	51 0 0	100	156	137	133

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	26 4 0	29 6 0	20 0 0	100	130	145	143
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	20 0 0	14 0 0	13 9 0	100	196	137	133
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	21 0 0	17 8 0	17 0 0	100	207	173	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..					..		100	202	155	151
Index No—Textiles—Cotton ..					..		100	178	152	150
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund	28 0 0	34 0 0	34 8 0	35 8 0	100	121	123	127
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	62	68	68
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	62	68	68
Index No.—Hides ..				.. .	..		100	62	68	68
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 8 0	58 0 0	57 8 0	100	100	96	95
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	6 6 0	6 2 0	6 2 0	100	165	158	158
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	6 1 0	6 12 0	7 0 0	100	139	154	160
Index No.—Metals ..					.		100	135	136	133
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Renga. ..	Ton.	16 0 0	21 0 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	131	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	165	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles					..		100	160	165	165
Index No.—Food ..					..		100	141	137	138
Index No.—Non-food ..					..		100	140	137	137
General Index No. ..					..		100	140	137	133

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No., non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
April ..	122	84	217	279	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	170	192	184
1925														
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148
March ..	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	161	134	137	156	161	149	148
April ..	140	125	134	150	139	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	144

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 "	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117	119	103		105 (m)
1916 "	108	148	102	115	117	116		146	140	106		118
1917 "	118	180	130	116	128	146		190	180	114		142
1918 "	149	203	146	118	144	197		253	229	118		174
1919 "	186	208	155	132	157	205		275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 "	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	200
1921 "	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 "	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 "	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 "	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	251	169	132	(p) 366	173
1925 "	157	173	146	(a 153	(l) 163	598	509	(d) 261	169	133	(p) 390	178 (m)
" November	153	176	152			643	534		165	131		
" December	155	177	154	156		649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155			665	527		167	131		
" February	154	173	154		162	661	526		165	131		
" March	155	172	154	156		654	521	225		131	451	
" April	153	168	153			642	529			131		
" May	153	167	152			652	558		160	132		
" June	155	168	150	161		650	579	218	162	131	485	175
" July	157	170	150			649	637		162	130		
" August	155	170	150		163	652	681		161	130		
" September	155	172	149	158		657	684	217	161	130	539	
" October	155	174	148			672	705		161	131		
" November	154	179	150			657	730		161	131		
" December	156	179	151	157		657	741	213	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152			655	755		160	130		
" February	155	172	151		162	667	770		160	130		
" March	155	171	150				771	203			524	
" April	153	165										
" May	152											

(a) From 1914 to 1925 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1925 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100 (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100	. .	100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 ,, ..	100	96			106	(e) 100		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 ,, ..		97			147	102	. .	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 ,, ..		117	..		138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 ,, ..		149			153	169	. .	262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 ,, ..	236	196		...	178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 ,, ..	222	236			189	226	. .	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 ,, ..	216	259	152	. . .	228	299	307	509	292	(a) 377	347	244	226
1921 ,, ..	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 ,, ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 ,, ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 ,, ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 ,, ..	163	202	159	170	170	152	159	550	155	251	157	160	159
,, May ..	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
,, June ..	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
,, July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
,, August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
,, September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
,, October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
,, November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
,, December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
,, February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
,, March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
,, April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
,, May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
,, June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
,, July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
,, August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
,, September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
,, October ..	147	174	171	(b) 161	162	129	152	751	143	183	142	151	150
,, November ..	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	130	152	684	147	182	142	152	148
,, December ..	146	170	172	159	162	130	146	627	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January ..	146	170	173	159	162	126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
,, February ..	148	171	172	159	. . .	124	143	632	144		140	150	146
,, March ..	148		175				141	.			139		145
,, April ..	144					.	.	..		..	..		

*July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100 (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	.	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c)100	(d)	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100 (h)
1915 ,, ...	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	.	..	.	124	128	119.(i)
1916 ,, ...	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	.	..	.	160	142	146	141
1917 ,, ...	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	.	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 ,, ...	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	.	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ,, ...	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	.	.	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 ,, ...	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 ,, ...	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 ,, ...	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923 ,, ...	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f)496	105	968	136	218	160	188	166
1924 ,, ...	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1 016	138	248	159	200	170
1925 ,, ...	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1 107	152	260	169	210	167
,, October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129		228	166	.	163
,, November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165		163
,, December	151	174	161	116	156	156	154	462	660	147	1,108	145	221	164		163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(f)175	216	162	177	167
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	.	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	.	..
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	.	198	158	.	
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157		159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052		194	157	..	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	159	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	149	..	587	660	193	1,116		196	156	..	157
,, September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
,, October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091		191	157	.	160
,, November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
,, December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	208	1,081	..	184	157	..	159
1927 January	155	167	153	116		148	156	592	625	208	1,063	166	180	156	156	158
,, February	152	164	151	117	153	146	153	585	642	212	1,064	.	177	153	..	157
,, March	152	162	149	..	..	146	..	581	..	.	..	.	173	151	..	..
,, April	151	155	..	.	.	145	..	..	..	.	.	..	.	..	.	..
,, May	150	..	.	..	.	..	.	..	.				..	.	.	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100)

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MARCH AND APRIL 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay Mar. 1927	Karachi Mar. 1927	Ahmedabad Mar. 1927	Sholapur Mar. 1927	Poona Mar. 1927	Bombay April 1927	Karachi April 1927	Ahmedabad April 1927	Sholapur April 1927	Poona April 1927
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	7 11 1 *133*	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 0 4 *152*	7 11 1 *133*
Wheat	„	7 10 11 *137*	6 3 5 *148*	7 4 4 *154*	7 1 0 *137*	8 6 5 *156*	7 4 4 *130*	6 2 6 *146*	6 15 4 *148*	7 6 10 *144*	8 6 5 *156*
Jowari	„	5 12 6 *133*	4 11 4 *130*	5 5 4 *140*	4 4 2 *148*	5 3 10 *153*	5 11 2 *131*	4 9 2 *126*	5 5 4 *140*	3 15 11 *139*	5 3 10 *153*
Bajri	„	5 14 10 *137*	5 7 6 *130*	6 2 6 *131*	4 5 2 *123*	5 9 10 *137*	5 12 4 *134*	5 1 3 *121*	6 2 6 *131*	4 4 0 *121*	5 9 10 *137*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*135*	*132*	*139*	*142*	*145*	*132*	*128*	*137*	*139*	*145*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 15 1 *161*	5 14 10 *156*	5 5 4 *133*	5 10 2 *131*	6 3 5 *128*	6 10 11 *155*	6 0 7 *159*	5 0 0 *125*	5 10 2 *131*	6 0 1 *123*
Turdal	„	8 14 6 *152*	10 0 0 *150*	8 14 3 *144*	8 7 10 *145*	9 2 8 *139*	8 10 7 *148*	10 0 0 *150*	8 14 3 *144*	8 10 0 *148*	11 13 8 *179*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*157*	*153*	*139*	*138*	*134*	*152*	*155*	*135*	*140*	*151*

Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	14 4 7 *187*	12 8 9 *173*	13 7 7 *168*	14 8 9 *145*	14 0 7 *150*	14 4 7 *187*	12 1 2 *166*	13 5 4 *167*	13 14 7 *139*	13 3 7 *141*
Jagri (gul)	„	13 11 1 *160*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	9 2 3 *118*	8 0 4 *114*	13 11 1 *160*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	8 3 3 *106*	7 10 6 *109*
Tea	Lb.	0 15 3 *196*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 1 *193*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*
Salt	Maund	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 5 0 *151*	2 13 5 *151*	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 12 0 *146*
Beef	Seer	0 8 0 *155*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 1 *68*	0 4 6 *180*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 0 *155*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 5 *74*	0 3 6 *140*	0 6 0 *141*
Mutton	„	0 13 0 *195*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 9 0 *150*	0 9 0 *150*	0 13 6 *202*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*
Ghee	„	94 10 3 *186*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	66 10 8 *129*	97 0 5 *191*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*
Potatoes	„	7 2 3 *159*	4 11 4 *87*	3 6 6 *89*	6 10 8 *167*	5 4 2 *156*	6 8 9 *146*	4 14 9 *91*	3 5 4 *88*	5 0 0 *125*	4 5 1 *128*
Onions	„	5 5 9 *345*	4 8 1 *248*	5 0 0 *250*	4 7 1 *178*	3 8 2 *175*	4 12 2 *307*	3 1 3 *169*	4 7 1 *222*	3 1 3 *123*	2 11 6 *136*
Cocoanut oil	„	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*
Index No.—Other articles of food		*186*	*167*	*158*	*154*	*145*	*182*	*160*	*156*	*139*	*139*
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) : ..		*170*	*157*	*151*	*149*	*144*	*167*	*152*	*149*	*139*	*142*

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
May	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

VOL. VII] BOMBAY, JUNE, 1927 [No. 10

The Month in Brief

INDIAN TARIFF BOARD

The Report of the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry) was published on 7th June 1927. A summary of the discussion on the labour problem contained in the Report is published on pages 935-939 of this issue.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of May 1927. The average absenteeism was 8·84 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·18 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0·91 per cent. for Viramgaum, 15·53 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·17 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 16·89 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 13·29 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 9·90 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 7·20.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In June 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 154 as against 152 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 151.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 148 for the month of May 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were six industrial disputes in progress during May 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 3479 and the number of working days lost 29,688.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During May 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities, against India amounted to Rs. 9 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for June 1927

A RISE OF TWO POINTS

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **54 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **51 per cent.**

In June 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was 2 points higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 152 in May and 154 in June 1927. The general index is thus 39 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles recorded a rise of one point. A rise of 4 points in rice being partially counterbalanced by a fall of 3 points in wheat and of 5 points in jowari, the index number for cereals advanced by one point. Pulses went up by 2 points due to a rise of 3 points in gram. Among other food articles, tea declined by 2 points and cocoanut oil by 3 points; but salt and ghee rose by 5 and 6 points respectively. The price of beef advanced by 8 points and of mutton by 2 points. The remaining articles were practically steady during the month under review. The " other food " index was 177 as against 176 in the preceding month.

The " fuel and lighting " index remained stationary at 166. The index number for " clothing " was steady at 147, there being no change in the prices of the articles included in that group.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	53
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	52
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	54
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September ..	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November ..	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December ..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between May 16 and June 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JUNE

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	May 1927	June 1927
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·391	7·615	391·58	517·37	533·05
Wheat	,,	21	5·594	7·516	7·354	117·47	157·84	154·43
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5·615	5·417	47·89	61·77	59·59
Bajri	,,	6	4·313	5·771	5·771	25·88	34·63	34·63
Total—Cereals ..	..	..	..	..	..	582·82	771·61	781·70
Index Numbers—Cereals ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*133*	*134*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·599	6·740	43·02	65·99	67·40
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	8·990	8·974	17·53	26·97	26·92
Total—Pulses ..	..	..	..	..	..	60·55	92·96	94·32
Index Numbers—Pulses ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*154*	*156*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	13·693	13·693	15·24	27·39	27·39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	13·094	13·094	59·90	91·66	91·66
Tea	,,	$\frac{1}{40}$	40·000	79·917	79·057	1·00	2·00	1·98
Salt	,,	5	2·130	3·219	3·313	10·65	16·10	16·57
Beef	Seer ..	28	0·323	0·510	0·537	9·04	14·28	15·04
Mutton	,, ..	33	0·417	0·813	0·823	13·76	26·83	27·16
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246 16	246·16
Ghee	,,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	50·792	94·047	97·026	76·19	141·07	145·54
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	7·141	7·141	49·27	78·55	78·55
Onions	,,	3	1·552	3·573	3·573	4·66	10·72	10·72
Cocoanut Oil	,,	$\frac{1}{2}$	25·396	28·573	27·974	12·70	14·29	13·99
Total—Other food articles ..	..	..	..	..	..	381·18	669·05	674·76
Index Numbers—Other food articles	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*176*	*177*
Total—All food articles ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,024·55	1,533·62	1,550·78
Index Numbers—All food articles	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*150*	*151*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case ..	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61 49	61·49
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0·771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting ..	..	..	..	..	..	60·44	100·54	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting .	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·859	0·859	16·04	23·19	23·19
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	0·969	0·969	16·03	24·23	24·23
T. Cloths	,,	36	0·583	0·844	0·844	20·99	30·38	30·38
Total—Clothing ..	..	..	..	..	..	53·06	77·80	77·80
Index Numbers—Clothing ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*147*	*147*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent ..	..	..	..	..	..	*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	**1,251·07**	**1,906·36**	**1,923·52**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.	..	..	..	..	..	**100**	**152**	**154**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in May and June 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

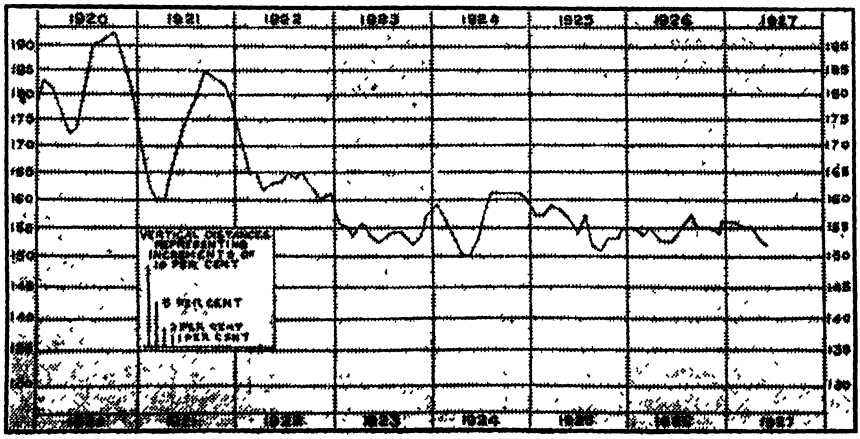
Articles	July 1914	May 1927	June 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in June 1927 over or below May 1927	Articles	July 1914	May 1927	June 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in June 1927 over or below May 1927
Rice ..	100	132	136	+4	Salt ..	100	151	156	+ 5
Wheat ..	100	134	131	—3	Beef ..	100	158	166	+ 8
Jowari ..	100	129	124	—5	Mutton ..	100	195	197	+ 2
Bajri ..	100	134	134	..	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	153	156	+3	Ghee ..	100	185	191	+ 6
Turdal ..	100	154	154	..	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	..
Sugar (refined)	100	180	180	..	Onions ..	100	230	230	..
Raw sugar (gul)	100	153	153	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	110	— 3
Tea ..	100	200	198	—2	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	150	151	+1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 26, Wheat 24, Jowari 19, Bajri 25, Gram 36, Turdal 35, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 35, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 40, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 48, Potatoes 37, Onions 57, Cocoanut Oil 9.

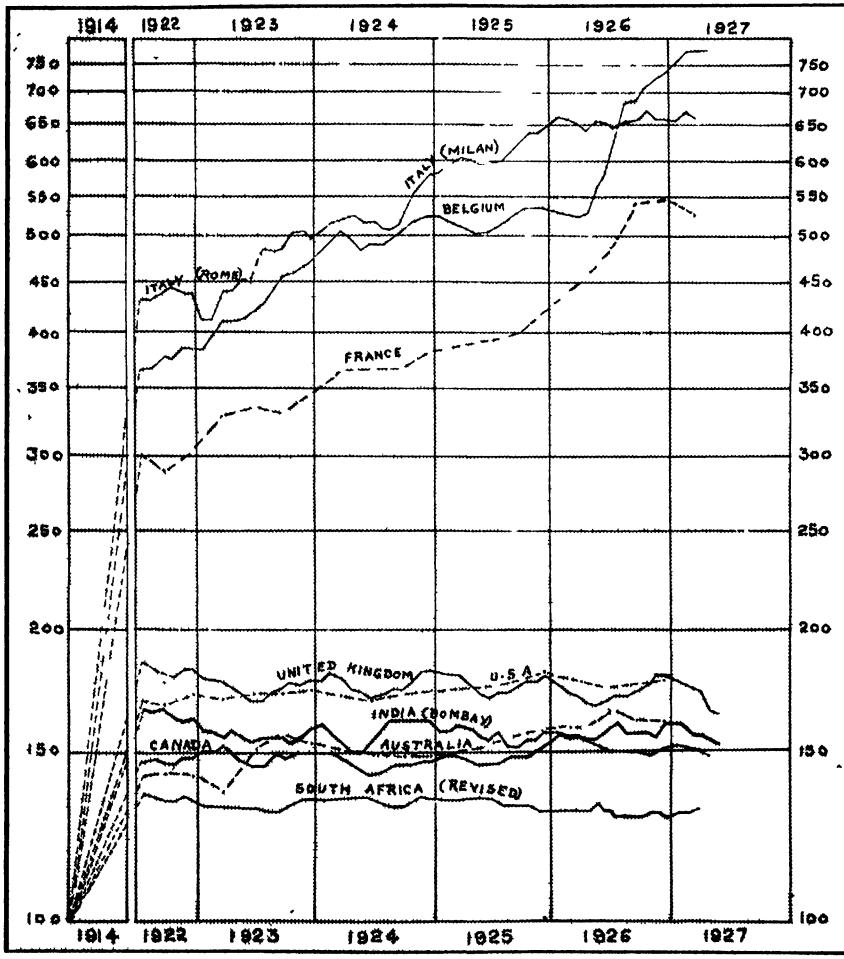
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 7 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A rise of three points

In May 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 148 as against 145 in the previous month. As compared with April 1927 there was a rise of 2 points in the food group and of 3 points in the non-food group. The general index number was 115 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and one point below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains registered a rise of one point due to an increase of one point in Cereals and of 2 points in Pulses. Rice, barley and turdal advanced by 5, 3 and 4 points respectively but the price of wheat and gram remained the same. Jowari declined by 4 points during the month.

There was a further fall of 3 points in refined sugar but the price of gul showed no change. A rise of 25 points in ghee being partially counter-balanced by a fall of 10 points in turmeric, the " other food " index rose by 5 points to 155.

Under the non-food group, there was a rise of 14 points in Raw cotton, of 6 points each in Other textiles and Hides and skins, of 3 points in Other raw and manufactured articles, of 2 points in Oilseeds and of one point in Cotton manufactures. Metals declined by 2 points. The index number for the non-food group stood at 150.

The subjoined table compares May 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year:—

*Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay** *100 = average of 1926*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with April 1927	+ or − % compared with May 1926	Groups	May 1926	Aug. 1926	Nov. 1926	Feb. 1927	Apr. 1927	May 1927
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 1	− 3	1. Cereals ..	102	101	99	102	99	99
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 2	+ 3	2. Pulses ..	98	106	106	109	99	101
3. Sugar ..	3	− 1	−15	3. Sugar ..	104	97	101	93	89	88
4. Other food ..	3	+ 3	+ 1	4. Other food ..	101	97	97	99	99	103
All food ..	15	+ 1	− 3	All food ..	102	100	99	101	97	99
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 1	+ 6	5. Oilseeds ..	102	100	98	107	107	108
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+11	+ 3	6. Raw cotton ..	99	106	84	89	91	101
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	+ 1	−11	7. Cotton manufactures ..	103	101	89	93	91	92
8. Other textiles .	2	+ 4	− 1	8. Other textiles	104	95	96	99	99	104
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 4	− 5	9. Hides & skins	105	86	97	91	96	100
10. Metals ..	5	− 1	− 3	10. Metals ..	100	97	99	105	99	97
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 2	+ 9	11. Other raw and manufactur e d articles ..	96	97	105	105	103	105
All non-food ..	29	+ 2	− 1	All non-food ..	100	98	97	98	97	99
General Index No.	44	+ 2	− 2	General Index No.	101	99	98	99	97	99

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 968.

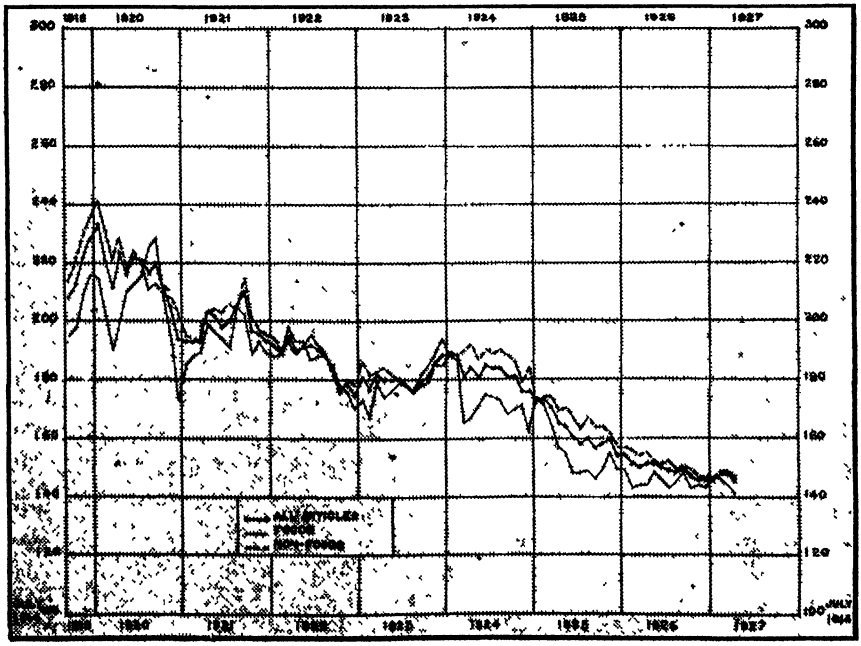
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

—	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920	206	219	216
„ „ 1921	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926	145	152	149
Five-monthly „ 1927	144	148	147

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

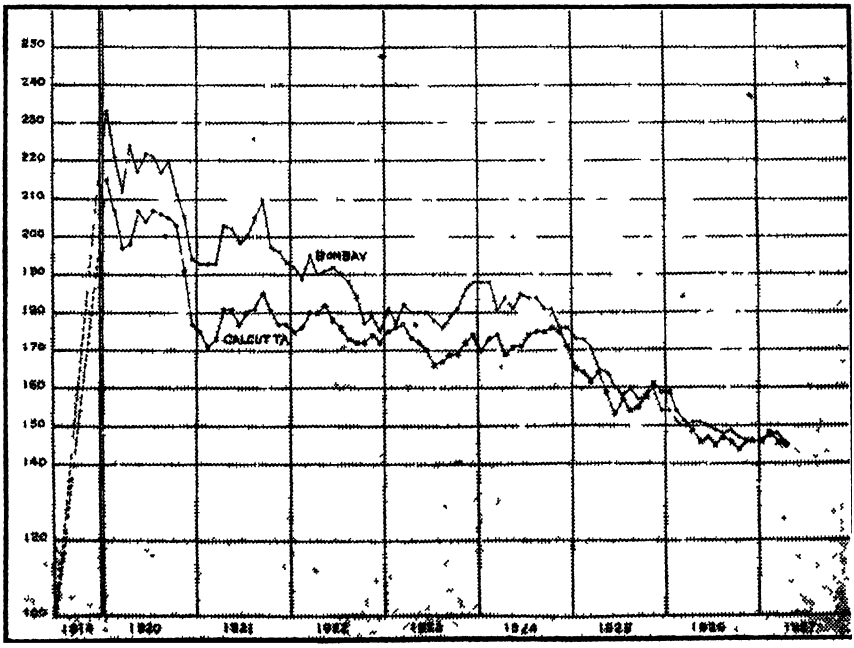


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

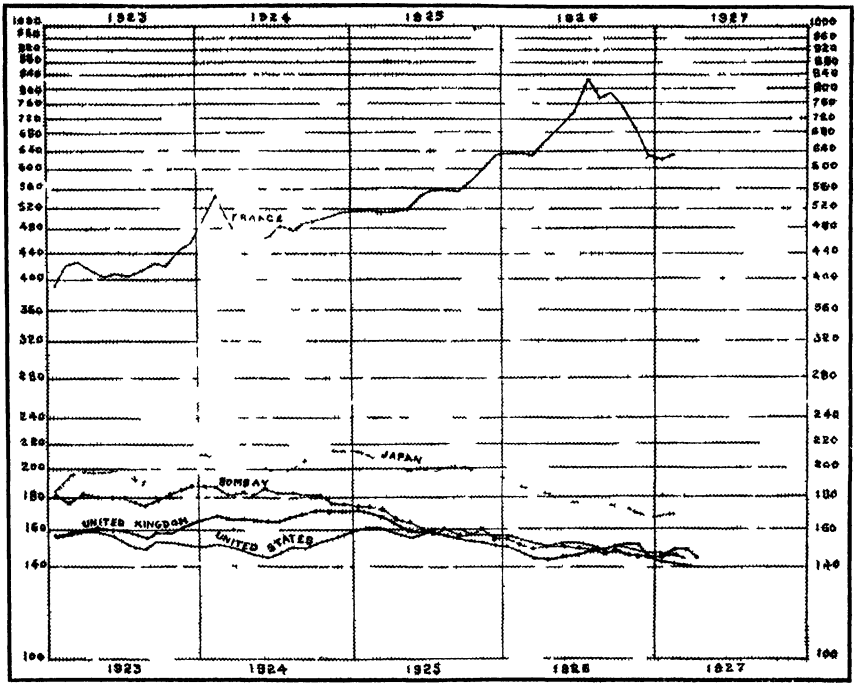
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 and in April 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the *Gazette*. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in " *The Statist*."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	April 1927	May 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in May 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	April 1927
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee .	212	5 10	7 11	7 10	+2 0	—0 1
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 5	7 8	+1 10	+0 3
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 7	5 6	+1 3	—0 1
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 0	6 0	+1 5	..
Gram ..	Delhi* ..	,,	192	4 4	6 5	6 4	+2 0	—0 1
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	204	5 11	8 10	9 2	+3 3	+0 4
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	2 0	1•11	+0 10	—0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	,, ..	28	1 2	1 11	1 10	+0 8	—0 1
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb ..	39	7 10	15 1	15 7	+7 9	+0 6
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 11	2 10	+1 1	—0 1
Beef ..		Lb. ..	39	2 6	3 11	4 0	+1 6	+0 1
Mutton ..		,, ..	39	3 0	6 7	6 4	+3 4	—0 3
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,, ..	28	7 1	13 7	13 2	+6 1	—0 5
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,, .	28	0 8	0 11	1 0	+0 4	+0 1
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,, ..	28	0 3	0 8	0 6	+0 3	—0 2
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,, ..	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	..

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during May 1927 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains, rice, jowari and gram declined by one pie each per paylee while the price of bajri showed no change. Wheat and turdal advanced by 3 and 4 pies respectively per paylee. Among other food articles refined sugar and gul fell by one pie each per seer and ghee by 5 piés per seer. There was a rise of 6 pies in tea and of one pie in beef but mutton was cheaper by 3 pies per lb. Salt recorded a fall of one pie per paylee and onions of 2 pies per seer. Potatoes were dearer by one pie per seer.

As compared with July 1914 all articles show considerable increases. Mutton is more than double its prewar prices Sugar (refined), tea, milk, ghee and onions have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. and potatoes by 50 per cent. The rise in the price of food-grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

* The equivalent in tolas shown in column 4 relates to Punjab gram.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in April and May 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in April and May 1927 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in April 1927 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in May 1927 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	107	107	107	103	Rice ..	100	108	108	114	104
Wheat ..	100	85	96	102	116	Wheat ..	100	82	83	97	106
Jowari ..	100	80	94	70	92	Jowari ..	100	80	90	70	93
Bajri ..	100	88	107	74	97	Bajri ..	100	87	100	72	97
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	90	101	88	102	Cereals ..	100	89	95	88	100
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	90	75	84	90	Gram ..	100	91	76	85	90
Turdal ..	100	115	103	100	137	Turdal ..	100	105	99	94	132
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	103	89	92	114	Pulses ..	100	98	88	90	111
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	85	93	97	93	Sugar (refined) ..	100	88	97	97	95
Jagri (Gul)	100	83	83	60	56	Jagri (Gul).	100	87	87	61	61
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	109	Tea ..	100	101	101	114	105
Salt ..	100	60	69	106	83	Salt ..	100	62	71	109	81
Beef ..	100	113	55	44	75	Beef ..	100	110	60	37	74
Mutton ..	100	74	74	59	67	Mutton ..	100	77	77	62	69
Milk ..	100	43	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	44	61	76	76
Ghee ..	100	73	73	73	77	Ghee ..	100	78	79	76	79
Potatoes ..	100	75	51	76	66	Potatoes ..	100	75	47	70	59
Onions ..	100	65	93	65	57	Onions ..	100	97	93	86	74
Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98
Average— Other articles of food ..	100	79	78	81	78	Average— Other articles of food ..	100	83	80	82	79
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**84**	**85**	**84**	**88**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**86**	**85**	**84**	**88**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles rose by two points at Karachi and remained stationary at Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona. Referring back to May 1926 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles is lower by one point at Karachi and Sholapur respectively, by 11 points at Ahmedabad and by 2 points at Poona.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice, jagri (gul), mutton and ghee showed a rise, that of cocoanut oil remained stationary and of wheat, turdal and tea recorded a decrease at all the four mofussil centres. The relative price of jowari was steady at Karachi and Sholapur. Bajri declined, but gram registered a rise at all centres except Poona. Sugar (refined) was stationary at Sholapur and salt declined at Poona but both were higher at the other centres. Milk rose at Karachi and Ahmedabad and was steady at the remaining centres. Potatoes and onions were steady at Karachi and Ahmedabad respectively.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1927

Abbreviations:— S = *Scanty.* F = *Fair.* N = *Normal.* E = *Excess.*

Rainfall Division	June					July				August				September				October				
	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	7th	14th	21st	28th	5th	12th	19th	26th
I. Bombay Presidency																						
1 Sind { River		F	S	S																		
1 Sind { Rainfall	N	N	S	S																		
2 Gujarat	S	S	N	E																		
3 Deccan	N	F	E	E																		
4 Konkan	F	S	N	N																		
II. Madras Presidency																						
1 Malabar	E	E	F	F																		
2 Deccan	S	E	E	S																		
3 Coast North	S	S	N	E																		
4 South East	S	N	E	E																		
III. Mysore	S	F	F	F																		
IV. Hyderabad																						
1 North	S	F	E	E																		
2 South	S	F	E	S																		
V. Central Provinces																						
1 Berar	S	S	F	E																		
2 West	S	S	F	E																		
3 East	S	S	F	E																		
VI. Central India																						
1 West	S	S	S	N																		
2 East	E	S	S	F																		
VII. Bengal Presidency	F	E	F	N																		
VIII. Assam	S	E	N	N																		
IX. Bihar & Orissa																						
1 Bihar	F	E	S	F																		
2 Orissa	S	F	S	N																		
3 Chota Nagpur	F	S	S	F																		
X. United Provinces																						
1 East	E	S	S	N																		
2 West	E	S	S	E																		
XI. Punjab																						
1 East & North	E	S	F	S																		
2 South West	E	N	F	S																		
XII. Northwest Frontier	N	S	S	S																		
XIII. Rajputana																						
1 West	S	S	E	S																		
2 East	S	S	S	F																		
XIV. Burma																						
1 Lower	E	N	N	F																		
2 Upper	E	E	E	E																		

NOTES—

"Normal" in the chart is a variation from 80 to 120 % of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120 % of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80 %; and "Scanty" below 40 %. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding Hill Stations.

The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in May .. 6 Workpeople involved .. 3479

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during May 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute," in the official sense, means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in May 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in May 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in May 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in May 1927
	Started before 1st May	Started in May	Total		
Textile		6	6	3,479	29,688
Transport					
Engineering ..					
Metal					
Miscellaneous ..					
Total ..		6	6	3,479	29,688

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was six, all of which occurred in textile mills. Two of the disputes occurred in Bombay, one in Amedabad, and the rest in other centres. The number of workpeople involved in these six disputes was 3479 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 29,688.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, January 1927 to May 1927

—	January 1927	February 1927	March 1927	April 1927	May 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	5	4	7	4	6
Disputes in progress at beginning		1	2	1	
Fresh disputes begun ..	5	3	5	3	6
Disputes ended ..	4	2	6	4	4
Disputes in progress at end.	1	2	1		2
Number of workpeople involved	4,002	1,177*	1,521	1,738	3,479
Aggregate duration in working days ..	16,507	775	5,987	3,298	29,688
Demands—					
Pay	3	4	3	1	4
Bonus					
Personal	1		4	2	2
Leave and hours ..					
Others	1			1	
Results—					
In favour of employees..		1			1
Compromised ..			1	2	1
In favour of employers..	4	1	5	2	2

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, *viz.*, 692, which carried forward from January.

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
June 1926 ..	9	7	7	1,752	100	..	..
July ,, ..	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August ,, ..	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ,, ..	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October ,, ..	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November ,, ..	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December ,, ..	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927 ..	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February ,, ..	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March ,, ..	7	5	6	5,987	83	..	17
April ,, ..	4	3	4	3,298	50	..	50
May ,, ..	6	6	4	29,688	50	25	25

† This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning during the month of May 1927 was 6 as compared with 3 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 3479 and the aggregate time loss amounted to 29,688 working days. Four of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages and the remaining 2 over questions regarding employment of particular persons. Settlements were arrived at in the case of 4 disputes. The results were favourable to the employers in 2 cases; one dispute ended in favour of the workers and the remaining dispute was compromised.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY

It was alleged that the management of the Rachel Sassoon Mill, Bombay, curtailed the production in the mill on account of trade depression and that the earnings of the weavers consequently decreased by 50 per cent. They also complained of ill-treatment by the management and 1000 weavers, as a result, struck work on the morning of the 11th demanding more work and better treatment. The mill was closed that day. On the 12th, the superintendent of the mill met about 500 strikers who had assembled at the mill, and promised not only to look into their grievances but also to try to give them more work. Satisfied at this, 325 strikers resumed work at noon and 100 more strikers returned to work in the afternoon. All the remaining strikers resumed work on the 13th. The dispute thus ended in a compromise.

In the Raymond Woollen Mills, it was alleged that the management proposed to reduce the wages of their employees by 10 to 15 per cent. with effect from April 1927 but did not notify their intention to do so to the workers. When the pay-tickets were issued to the workers on the 14th, 147 weavers who came to know of the proposed reduction in wages, struck work at 10 a.m. as a protest against the reduction and refused to accept their wages. The strikers were rowdy at first but became peaceful on the arrival of the police. The management paid the strikers their wages for April at the old rates and for May at reduced rates. There was no change in the situation till the 20th. On that date, 25 strikers resumed work in the morning but owing to a false rumour that a jobber who had resumed work was thrashed, the men struck work again in the afternoon. Subsequently, however, 10 strikers resumed work. Work was resumed unconditionally by the majority of the strikers on the 21st and by all the remaining strikers on the 23rd. This strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

AHMEDABAD

The weavers in the Gujarat Cotton Mills, who had previously gone on strike on the 26th April resumed work on a promise made by the

amounted to 8·84 per cent. as compared with the 8·91 per cent. during April.

In Ahmedabad 60 mills were working during the month and 38 or 63·33 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 2·18 per cent. as against 2·47 per cent. in April. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

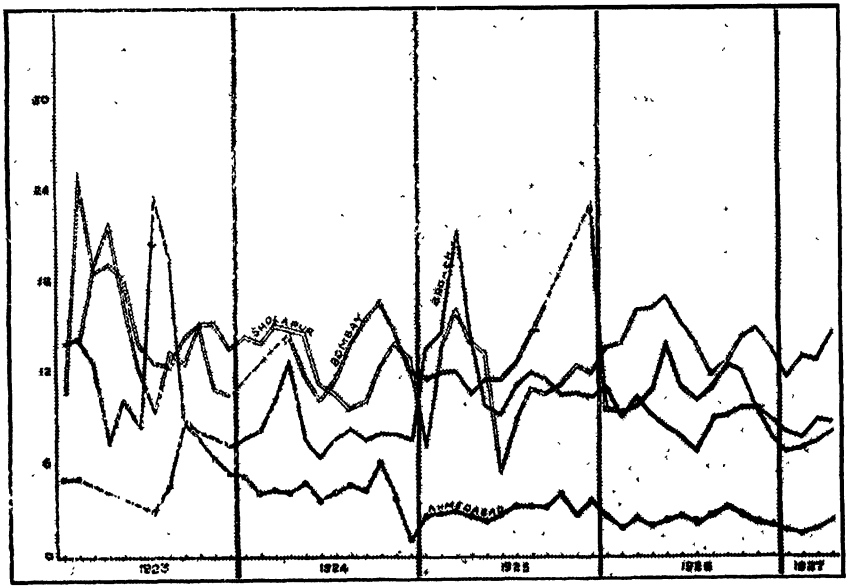
Returns were submitted by 5 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 15·53.

Of the two mills in Viramgaum which furnished information one reported that the supply of labour was short of the demand. The average absenteeism amounted to 0·91 per cent.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 9·17 per cent. as against 8·35 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 16·89 per cent. as against 16·34 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 13·29 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 9·90 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 7·20 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, May 1927

BOMBAY SUBURBAN

The occupier of a dyeing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 26 and Section 28. He was convicted and fined Rs, 5 in each of six cases.

EAST KHANDESH

The occupier of a cotton pressing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 20 for employing women, in the palla room with an opening in the partition and with the opener at work. He was convicted and fined Rs. 3 in each of thirty cases.

The manager of the same factory was similarly prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for the same offence. He was also convicted and fined Rs. 2 in each of thirty cases.

The manager of a cotton ginning and pressing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 23 (*a*) for employing children without certificates. He was convicted and fined Rs. 3 in each of five cases.

The manager of the same factory was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 24 for employing women at night time. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in one case and Rs. 3 in each of seven cases.

The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*h*) for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining " D " form register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during May 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of May 1927. Information was furnished by all Commissioners except one in the Presidency and out of a total number of 47 cases disposed of during the month 45 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The cases which were transferred from one Commissioner to another have not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded during the month amounted to Rs. 18,775-4-0 as against Rs. 18,538-11-2 in the previous month, and Rs. 13,776-6-0 in May 1926. Out of the 47 cases in which compensation was claimed, 14 were fatal accidents and the remaining 33 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 28 and in other industries to 19. The corresponding figures for May 1926 were 15 and 20.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 47, of whom 44 were adult males, 2 adult females and one a male under 15 years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 27 were original claims, 19 registration of agreements and one a miscellaneous application. Compensation was awarded in 25 cases, agreements were registered in 20 cases, one case was dismissed and another was allowed to be withdrawn.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

There has been for some time past a very marked fall in the membership of the Weavers' Union which is causing considerable anxiety to the Union. The decrease in membership is chiefly due to the Muhammadan members withdrawing from the Union. Owing to communal tension, it is a problem before the Labour Union whether to keep the Hindus as members or not; and they are thinking of asking them to withdraw also with a view not to allow the split between the two communities to become permanent. When the feeling improves, they hope to reconstruct the union on improved lines. Since the weavers are going out, the Labour Union has decided to concentrate more on the spinners; and considerable propaganda work is going on amongst them with the object of increasing the number of spinners in the Union.

In the *Majur Sandesh*, the weekly paper of the Labour Union, some interesting dialogues of labour interest are given every now and then with the object of increasing the membership and the solidarity among the workers.

On the 14th May a big meeting was held under the auspices of the Samaj Sudhara Sangha. This Sangha has been doing considerable social work for the past eight months. During this period they kept constant watch over some 25 families in the Jamalpur area and gave them instructions as to social and personal hygiene, sanitation, feeding, general cleanliness, good manners, good habits, etc. Families in other areas were similarly studied; and in all 100 families came under their influence and were benefited. Records of nearly 50 families were regularly kept with a view to studying the drink problem and ultimately solving it. As a result of their activities in this direction, in the aforesaid meeting 55 workmen ceremoniously took oaths never to drink again; and the Sangha feels fully confident that these men will keep their word. The Labour Union is at present training workers for social work; and they desire to spread their activities all over Ahmedabad and carry on intensive propaganda with a view to bringing about improvements in the labour population.

THE B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

As agreed in the meeting of April 1927 between the President and Secretary of this Association and the Agent of the B. B. & C. I. Railway, this association will shortly register itself under the Trade Unions Act and be automatically recognized by the Railway authorities.

THE GUJARAT POSTMEN'S UNION

Two delegates have been sent to Belgaum to attend the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Conference.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th June 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

The weather and crop reports received so far go to show that the monsoon is developing normally and the outlook in most parts of the Presidency at the moment is generally satisfactory. The position regarding crops and rainfall as it appears to-day in the various divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—Good rain has been received in places in this division but is not yet general. The preliminary field operations are, however, nearly completed almost everywhere. The present weather conditions in the division indicate probability of rain in the near future and if this occurs, general *kharif* sowing will soon be started.

Konkan.—Excellent rain has been received nearly everywhere in the division and, in consequence, cultivators are now busy sowing rice and other early crops. In some cases rice, already sown, shows good progress.

Deccan.—Rainfall both good and wide-spread has been received in most parts of the division. As a result, the sowing of *kharif* crops is now in full swing almost everywhere. The sugarcane crop in the canal areas has been much benefited by these rains. In parts of the Satara district a spell of fine weather is required to enable cultivators to proceed with their sowing operations. In a few places in the Ahmednagar and Sholapur districts more rain is still wanted. Broadly speaking however the outlook in the division, at the present moment, seems bright and hopeful.

Karnatak.—Favourable rains have been received in the western and central belts of this division where, in consequence, the sowing of the early crops is progressing briskly. In the eastern parts of the division, however, the rainfall has not yet been either general or sufficient and the people are waiting for rain to enable them to start general sowings in their lands which they have made ready to receive the seed.

Fifth Year Book of the International Federation of Trade Unions, 1927

Published by the International Federation of Trade Unions, 31 Tesselschadestraat, Amsterdam

We have received Part I of the Fifth Year Book of the International Federation of Trade Unions. This part contains statistical tables. Part II which contains report received from National Centres and Trade Secretariats is expected to be out in the middle of the current year.

The year Book is published in English, French, and German and continues to be interesting.

International Labour Conference

MR. GIRI'S RESOLUTIONS

Mr. V. V. Giri, representative of Indian Labour at the 10th Session of International Labour Conference at Geneva, has given notice to the International Labour Office, Geneva, that he will move the following resolutions at the Conference:

(1) "This Conference recommends to the Governing Body and to the International Labour Office to enquire into and report on the question of 'Forced Labour' as prevailing in certain countries, in Asia and in Africa and in some of the Colonies, and to place this question on the agenda of the Conference at its early future session."

(2) "This Conference recommends to the Governing Body and to the International Labour Office to take immediate steps to enquire into and report on the question of 'Treating a breach of the contract of service as a criminal offence' and to place this question on the agenda of the Conference at its early future session."

(3) "This Conference recommends to the Governing Body and to the International Labour Office to take immediate steps to enquire into and report on the question of 'Dismissal and discharge of employees by the employers without adequate grounds and without adequate compensation' and to place this question on the agenda of an early future session of the Conference."

(4) "This Conference draws the attention of those nations which are members of the International Labour Organisation and which are responsible for the Government of some colonies, that it is in the interest of workers in those colonies and in the interest of the workers generally that the delegations from these countries to the International Labour Conference should include some representatives of the workers of the colonies.

"This Conference also draws the attention of those nations which are members of the International Labour Organisation and in which the white people are the ruling class but in which the natives and the coloured people are either the majority of the population of that country or form a substantial portion of the population to the desirability of the representatives of the native or coloured workers attending the International Labour Conference as a part of the delegations from those countries." (*From "Bombay Chronicle," Bombay, May 21, 1927.*)

The Chinese Cotton Industry

In Shanghai and its vicinity, the centre of the cotton manufacturing industry, a United States Commerce Report states, there are located almost 56 per cent. of the spindles and 71·5 per cent. of the looms in China. Shanghai, which is also the chief commercial centre of the country as well as the principal distributing point for the central and northern districts, affords the mills advantages for marketing their products which no other port possesses. All of the British mills, 32 of the Japanese, and 22 of the

Chinese are in this district. These mills employed approximately 117,000 operatives in 1925, produced 391,183,000 lbs. of cotton yarn, and reported an output of 37,069,000 yards of cloth. The last-named figure, however, does not take into account the production of the British mills which failed to report their cloth output.

The total production of the cotton industry of China in 1925, reached 719,215,000 lbs. of yarn and 120,023,000 yards of cotton cloth, according to the Chinese Cotton Mill Owners' Association of Shanghai. These figures, however, are generally regarded as incomplete, and as based entirely on reports received from the mills—many of which seem averse to furnishing data, particularly on cloth production. In 1915 the output of cotton yarn amounted to 200,000,000 to 250,000,000 lbs. and of cloth between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000 yards. The production in 1925, therefore, represents an increase of about 200 per cent. over that of 1915.

In 1925 the mills in China reported a consumption of over 900,000,000 lbs. of cotton, while in 1915 consumption was estimated at about 270,000,000 lbs.

The principal factors which have contributed to the establishment and growth of the Chinese cotton goods industry have been the following :—

1. A supply of native grown cotton of sufficiently good quality for spinning low counts of yarn.
2. An enormous domestic demand for the products of the mills, which, in the case of yarns, far exceeds that of any other country in the world.
3. Low cost of power—a good supply of coal from native mines and from Japan is available, while in Shanghai an unusually low rate is charged for electric power generated by the municipality.
4. An abundance of very cheap labour which makes the cost of production lower than in any other part of the world.

The bulk of the cotton consumed in the mills is not equal to American cotton in quality but it can be used economically for spinning the coarse yarn counts which are in greatest demand in China. Its low cost gives the Chinese mills a marked advantage in the production of heavy sheetings and drills, in both of which the value of the raw material constitutes a large percentage of the cost.

No authoritative statistics are available for the counts of yarns produced in Chinese mills at present. In 1915, the yarn spun ranged from 6's to 20's, with a small quantity of 32's added. The greatest demand is for counts from 10's to 16's inclusive, and competition is keenest in these numbers. The finest produce on a commercial scale in China at the present time is said to be 42's. Several experimental schools are producing counts above 42's but their activities are limited by lack of funds. (*From "Indian Textile Journal," Bombay, April 30, 1927.*)

British Trade Boards and Minimum Wages

The information given below is taken from a paper read on 1st February 1927 by Mr. J. S. Nicholson, Assistant Secretary, British Ministry of

Labour, before a Conference on systems of fixing minimum wages and methods of conciliation and arbitration, convened in London by the League of Nations Union.

The system of regulating minimum wages in Great Britain, which was instituted by the Trade Boards Acts of 1909 and 1918, has now been applied to about 40 trades in which about 1,250,000 workers are engaged. The trades in which the minimum wage-fixing machinery has been established, are generally those in which employers and workers are least organised—less than one-fifth of the workers and less than one-half of the employers belonging to an organisation.

Rates are fixed by an *ad hoc* authority (the Trade Board) set up separately for each trade. At the present time the number of Boards is 44.

A Board consists of members representing employers and workers in equal proportions, and of impartial members, the number of whom must be less than one-half the total number of representative members. The size of the Boards differs widely according to circumstances from trade to trade. In the dressmaking trade in England and Wales, where there are some 13,000 establishments with 167,000 workpeople, the Trade Board consists of 65 members. In the chain trade, on the other hand, with some 3000 workpeople, there is a board of 17 members. The average membership of Boards is 37.

The Trade Board is required to fix a minimum time rate, but it may also fix minimum rates of practically every kind recognised in industry, including overtime rates. Further, any of these rates may be fixed so as to apply universally to the trade, or to particular classes or particular areas.

Rates fixed by the Board are subject to confirmation by the Minister of Labour. The Minister must either confirm the rate or refer it back to the Board for reconsideration, but he has no power to amend the determinations submitted to him.

For the purpose of enforcement, a body of about 60 inspectors has been appointed. With this staff it is possible each year to inspect some 8 per cent. of the 147,000 establishments subject to Trade Board jurisdiction. In 1926 the number of establishments inspected was 11,392, employing about 111,000 workpeople entitled to Trade Board rates. In the case of 2548 establishments, arrears of wages were claimed, the total being about £ 40, 000 in respect of some 6600 workers. Just over one-half of the total number of workers found to be underpaid were in receipt of 90 per cent. or more of the minimum rate. During the year, 70 cases were brought before the Courts on charges of evasion of duties under the Acts. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 14, 1927.*)

Fatal Industrial Accidents in the United Kingdom

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britian and Northern Ireland during March 1927 was 249, as compared with 206 in the previous month and with 234 in March 1926. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 93 in March 1927, as compared with 40 in the previous month, and with 68 a year ago. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.*)

Scientific Management of Industry in the United States

It is always difficult to state categorically the attitude of any large organisation to an undertaking which many individual units are carrying out, each according to its own concepts. This difficulty is involved in stating American labour's attitude toward scientific management. If scientific management is defined as an attitude toward production organisation and problems which uses the records of past experience as the means to better methods and processes, then the American Federation of Labour is in hearty accord with this purpose, and has repeatedly declared its willingness to co-operate.

However, there have been ways of carrying out this purpose to which our trade unions have interposed prompt and successful opposition. When Frederick Taylor began developing his technique for scientific management he started important and productive consideration of better planning of work orders, routing of materials, synchronising of the work of those engaged in group work, better plant layouts, etc. But his treatment of the workers necessary to carry out production plans was not proportionately good. His chief reliance was in the time study and the stop-watch. These time studies got workers and management to thinking about how the men and women did their work, but made no suggestions as to why they worked, why they made this or that response to situations, or the effects of methods on them physically. In other words, early scientific management disregarded the service that physiology, psychology, and philosophy can make to production.

When an attempt to introduce this method of approaching scientific management in Government arsenals and navy yards was made the workers through their unions made vehement protest. They pointed out that this method of seeking efficiency was nothing but a speeding-up process, which was very wasteful of a production element of major importance industrially and socially. The unions pointed out that they had been handling tools and materials in fabrication for many years, and that they had experience that ought to be considered in deciding how they were to work. An " expert " equipped with a stop-watch could not have the information in possession of those handling the tools. This protest was not only successful in barring the stop-watch from arsenals and navy yards, but in widening the approach of those developing scienific management technique. In the Taylor Society there developed a group which held that production is essentially a co-operative undertaking, and the basis on which groups participated in its various processes should be " consent." This group has come to dominate the administration of the Society.

In the past six years the American Federation of Labour has been defining and developing a constructive policy for participating in the promotion of a more scientific organisation of industry.

Holding that only through increased productivity can higher standards of living be maintained, and that all groups, therefore, have a mutual interest in increasing the efficiency and hence the productivity of industries, our trade unions recognised the interdependence of the ultimate purposes

of management and wage-earners, though their interests may not necessarily be identical. American Labour believes that the only way to get satisfactory bases for joint relations in work is to agree that representatives of both sides shall reach decisions through joint conferences. Discussion at the conference table discloses the points of disagreement and the reasons therefor, after which further conference can result in agreement or adjustment.

American Labour believes that the joint problems with which management and Labour are concerned are much wider than just terms and conditions of employment. They grow out of the whole area of joint efforts to produce. Labour brings to the day's work intelligence as well as human labour power, craft, skill, concern for increased production—in other words, the workman brings the attitude of a real partnership in a joint undertaking if the basis of his conctractual relationships with the industry rest upon consent. An individual contract between a large production establishment and the individual worker cannot rest upon consent. The union is necessary to give the workers equality in bargaining. When the union is recognised as the instrumentality of the workers the road is open to progress.

Any new development makes uneven progress, so we find more or less clearly defined attempts to realise various phases of union-management co-operation.

Under various systems of union-management co-operation, workers have felt a responsibility and a partnership in the industry which has stimulated intellectual effort and brought substantial benefits to the industry. Prevention of waste, saving of materials, better production methods, even inventions of machinery to increase efficiency have been part of the workers' contribution. They have gone out to their communities to solicit trade for their employers. Local union meetings have become a discussion forum for plant problems, producing practical suggestions that are carried into the shops for practical demonstration. National officers have contributed expert advice and direction. Unions with banking systems have given financial help to employers in difficult times. The workers' demands under this system of co-operation have been restrained by better understanding of the facts of production. They have asked stabilisation of employment—which is in itself indispensable to industrial efficiency—and a fair share in the returns made through their co-operation, that is, their share in the wealth they are creating. Such an attitude as this, and such a spirit as that with which the workers have undertaken their task of industrial improvement under union-management co-operation, is evidence of a very real appreciation of their responsibilities to the industry, and a decided ability to contribute from an experience gained in handling the materials and tools of production.

American Labour's whole programme for industry is in accord with our fundamental acceptance of voluntary principles. We believe that individual initiative is essential to progress and remains the basic force even when the individual is organised for group action. We place our hope in educational methods as the means to progress and development, believing that the day's work and the day's problems will be the instrumentalities for further growth and development. We are trying as best we can to

make our contribution to the development of larger opportunities for the citizenry of our country. (*From "Manchester Guardian Commercial," Manchester, March 3, 1927.*)

Wages and Hours in the Cotton and Wool Textile Industries in the United States

The United States Bureau of Labour Statistics has recently completed a survey of the wages and hours of labour of workpeople in the cotton and wool textile industries of that country in 1926. The data for the cotton industry were collected from the payrolls of 151 cotton mills situated in twelve different States, and cover a total of 82,982 workpeople. Those for the woollen and worsted industry were collected from 112 mills, in eight States, and cover 39,970 workpeople. The particulars given relate generally to a week within the period from June to October, 1926.

The following Table shows the average full-time weekly hours of labour, the average hourly earnings, and the average full-time weekly earnings for some of the principal classes of workpeople :—

Occupation		Average full-time hours per week	Average earnings per hour	Average full-time earnings per week
Cotton Industry			Dollars	Dollars
Card tenders and strippers	Male	54·1	·322	17·42
Card grinders	Male	53·7	·414	22·23
Drawing frame tenders	Male	55·0	·279	15·35
" " "	Female	51·9	·281	14·58
Slubber tenders	Male	54·3	·377	20·47
Spinners, mule	Male	48·4	·656	31·75
Spinners, frame	Female	53·5	·282	15·09
Doffers	Male	54·2	·307	16·64
"	Female	51·4	·344	17·68
Spooler tenders	Female	53·6	·246	13·19
Beamer tenders	Male	53·0	·492.	26·08
Drawers-in	Female	52·1	·357	18·60
Weavers	Male	53·2	·396	21·07
"	Female	51·9	·375	19·46
Woollen and Worsted Industry				
Wool sorters	Male	50·8	·713	36·22
Card tenders	Male	49·8	·419	20·87
Card strippers	Male	49·5	·464	22·97
Gill-box tenders	Male	50·1	·405	20·29
" "	Female	51·0	·326	16·63
Comber tenders	Male	50·5	·478	24·14
" "	Female	49·9	·378	18·86
Drawing frame tenders	Female	49·7	·352	17·49
Spinners, mule	Male	49·7	·695	34·54
Spinners, frame	Female	49·8	·362	18·03
Doffers	Female	49·9	·280	13·97
Spooler tenders	Female	49·1	·391	19·20
Drawers-in	Female	48·9	·497	24·30
Weavers	Male	48·9	·652	31·88
"	Female	49·2	·600	29·52
Burlers	Female	49·3	·381	18·78
Menders	Female	48·6	·507	24·64

Index numbers compiled from the data collected for 1926 and previous years show that the average weekly full-time hours of labour were less in 1926 than in 1913 by 8 per cent. in the cotton industry and by 12 per cent. in the woollen and worsted industry; average hourly earnings were higher by 122 per cent. in the cotton industry and 177 per cent. in the woollen and worsted industry; and the average full-time weekly earnings showed a rise, during the same period, of 105 per cent. in the cotton industry and 142 per cent. in the woollen and worsted industry. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.*)

Crêches in Polish Workshops

On 11th March last the Polish Minister of Labour published a Decree relating to the establishment and maintenance of crêches for nursing mothers in workshops. The Decree provides as follows:

Every employer is required to establish and maintain a crêche if the number of adult women employed by him exceeds 100, even temporarily, in a given month; the crêche must be opened in the following month.

The crêche must be maintained either at the expense of the employer alone, or at the expense of several employers or of special associations created for the purpose.

The crêches must be close enough to the workshops to allow working women to nurse their children during the intervals compulsorily provided for the purpose.

Before the crêche is opened the factory inspector must satisfy himself, in conjunction with the medical officer, that the premises and their equipment and staff are in accordance with hygienic requirements.

The crêches will be exclusively reserved for children of less than 15 months, nursed by the mother during her period of work.

Each child is to be assigned an area of at least 3 square metres and the premises must be at least 2·8 metres high.

The crêche must comprise a separate bed for each child, with the necessary bed clothes. No room may contain more than 12 children.

If the mother or the staff of the crêche suspect that a child has some disease, the child in question must be immediately isolated until a medical diagnosis has been obtained. In the event of a contagious disease in the child's home, the child must not be allowed in the crêche.

The medical officers and the factory inspectors are required to supervise the crêches, and the medical officers are authorised to prescribe more detailed rules of hygiene.

The Decree will come into force within a time-limit to be fixed by the Minister of Labour under Section 1 of the Act of 5th August 1926. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.*)

The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, and Regulations

We give below the text of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, together with the Regulations thereunder as finally adopted for the Bombay Presidency.

INDIAN TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

An Act to provide for the registration of Trade Unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered Trade Unions in British India.

Whereas it is expedient to provide for the registration of Trade Unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered Trade Unions in British India; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I

Preliminary

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India, including British Baluchistan and the Sonthal Parganas.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, appoint.

2. *Definitions.*—In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(*a*) "executive" means the body, by whatever name called, to which the management of the affairs of a Trade Union is entrusted;

(*b*) "officer," in the case of a Trade Union, includes any member of the executive thereof, but does not include an auditor;

(*c*) "prescribed" means prescribed by regulations made under this Act;

(*d*) "registered office" means that office of a Trade Union which is registered under this Act as the head office thereof;

(*e*) "registered Trade Union" means a Trade Union registered under this Act;

(*f*) "Registrar" means a Registrar of Trade Unions appointed by the Local Government under section 3, and "the Registrar", in relation to any Trade Union, means the Registrar appointed for the province in which the head or registered office, as the case may be, of the Trade Union is situated;

(*g*) "trade dispute" means any dispute between employers and workmen or between workmen and workmen, or between employers and employers, which is connected with the employment or non-employment, or the terms of employment or the conditions of labour, of any person, and "workmen" means all persons employed in trade or industry whether or not in the employment of the employer with whom the trade dispute arises; and

(*h*) "Trade Union" means any combination, whether temporary or permanent, formed primarily for the purpose of regulating the relations between workmen and employers or between workmen and workmen, or between employers and employers, or for imposing restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business, and includes any federation of two or more Trade Unions:

Provided that this Act shall not affect—

(*i*) any agreement between partners as to their own business;

(*ii*) any agreement between an employer and those employed by him as to such employment; or

(*iii*) any agreement in consideration of the sale of the goodwill of a business or of instruction in any profession, trade or handicraft.

CHAPTER II

Registration of Trade Unions

3. *Appointment of Registrars.*—Each Local Government shall appoint a person to be the Registrar of Trade Unions for the province.

4. *Mode of Registration.*—Any seven or more members of a Trade Union may, by subscribing their names to the rules of the Trade Union and by otherwise complying with the provisions of this Act with respect to registration, apply for registration of the Trade Union under this Act.

5. *Application for registration.*—(1) Every application for registration of a Trade Union shall be made to the Registrar, and shall be accompanied by a copy of the rules of the Trade Union and a statement of the following particulars, namely :—

(*a*) the names, occupations and addresses of the members making the application ;

(*b*) the name of the Trade Union and the address of its head office ; and

(*c*) the titles, names, ages, addresses and occupations of the officers of the Trade Union.

(2) Where a Trade Union has been in existence for more than one year before the making of an application for its registration, there shall be delivered to the Registrar, together with the application, a general statement of the assets and liabilities of the Trade Union prepared in such form and containing such particulars as may be prescribed.

6. *Provisions to be contained in the rules of a Trade Union.*—A Trade Union shall not be entitled to registration under this Act, unless the executive thereof is constituted in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and the rules thereof provide for the following matters, namely :—

(*a*) the name of the Trade Union ;

(*b*) the whole of the objects for which the Trade Union has been established ;

(*c*) the whole of the purposes for which the general funds of the Trade Union shall be applicable, all of which purposes shall be purposes to which such funds are lawfully applicable under this Act ;

(*d*) the maintenance of a list of the members of the Trade Union and adequate facilities for the inspection thereof by the officers and members of the Trade Union ;

(*e*) the admission of ordinary members who shall be persons actually engaged or employed in an industry with which the Trade Union is connected, and also the admission of the number of honorary or temporary members as officers required under section 22 to form the executive of the Trade Union ;

(*f*) the conditions under which any member shall be entitled to any benefit assured by the rules and under which any fine or forfeiture may be imposed on the members ;

(*g*) the manner in which the rules shall be amended, varied or rescinded ;

(*h*) the manner in which the members of the executive and the other officers of the Trade Union shall be appointed and removed ;

(*i*) the safe custody of the funds of the Trade Union, an annual audit in such manner as may be prescribed, of the accounts thereof, and adequate facilities for the inspection of the account books by the officers and members of the Trade Union ; and

(*j*) the manner in which the Trade Union may be dissolved.

7. *Power to call for further particulars and to require alteration of name.*—(1) The Registrar may call for further information for the purpose of satisfying himself that any application complies with the provisions of section 5, or that the Trade Union is entitled to registration under section 6, and may refuse to register the Trade Union until such information is supplied.

(2) If the name under which a Trade Union is proposed to be registered is identical with that by which any other existing Trade Union has been registered or, in the opinion of the Registrar, so nearly resembles such name as to be likely to deceive the public or the members of either Trade Union, the Registrar shall require the persons applying for registration to alter the name of the Trade Union stated in the application, and shall refuse to register the Union until such alteration has been made.

8. *Registration.*—The Registrar, on being satisfied that the Trade Union has complied with all the requirements of this Act in regard to registration, shall register the Trade Union by entering in a register, to be maintained in such form as may be prescribed, the particulars relating to the Trade Union contained in the statement accompanying the application for registration.

9. *Certificate of registration.*—The Registrar, on registering a Trade Union under section 8, shall issue a certificate of registration in the prescribed form, which shall be conclusive evidence that the Trade Union has been duly registered under this Act.

10. *Cancellation of registration.*—A certificate of registration of a Trade Union may be withdrawn or cancelled by the Registrar—

(*a*) on the application of the Trade Union to be verified in such manner as may be prescribed, or

(*b*) if the Registrar is satisfied that the certificate has been obtained by fraud or mistake, or that the Trade Union has ceased to exist or has wilfully and after notice from the Registrar contravened any provision of this Act or allowed any rule to continue in force which is inconsistent with any such provision, or has rescinded any rule providing for any matter provision for which is required by section 6 :

Provided that not less than two months' previous notice in writing specifying the ground on which it is proposed to withdraw or cancel the certificate shall be given by the Registrar to the Trade Union before the certificate is withdrawn or cancelled otherwise than on the application of the Trade Union.

11. *Appeal.*—(1) Any person aggrieved by any refusal of the Registrar to register a Trade Union or by the withdrawal or cancellation of a certificate of registration may, within such period as may be prescribed, appeal to such Judge, not below the grade of an additional or Assistant Judge of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, as the Local Government may appoint in this behalf.

(2) The Judge may, after such inquiry as he deems necessary, dismiss the appeal or pass an order directing the Registrar to register the Union and to issue a certificate of registration under the

provisions of section 9, or setting aside the order for withdrawal or cancellation of the certificate, as the case may be, and the Registrar shall comply with such order.

(3) For the purpose of the inquiry, the Judge may summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses and compel them to give evidence as if he were a Civil Court; and he may also direct by whom the whole or any part of the costs of the inquiry shall be paid, and such costs shall be recovered as if they had been awarded in a suit under the Civil Procedure Code, 1908.

(4) In the event of the dismissal of an appeal under sub-section (2), the person aggrieved shall have the right of appeal to the High Court.

12. *Registered Office.*—All communications and notices to a registered Trade Union may be addressed to its registered office. Notice of any change in the address of the head office shall be given within fourteen days of such change to the Registrar in writing, and the changed address shall be recorded in the register referred to in section 8.

13. *Incorporation of registered Trade Unions.*—Every registered Trade Union shall be a body corporate by the name under which it is registered, and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal with power to acquire and hold both moveable and immoveable property and to contract, and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

14. *Certain Acts not to apply to registered Trade Unions.*—The following Acts, namely :—

(*a*) The Societies Registration Act, 1860,

(*b*) The Co-operative Societies Act, 1912,

(*c*) The Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912,

(*d*) The Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, and

(*e*) The Indian Companies Act, 1913,

shall not apply to any registered Trade Union, and the registration of any such Trade Union under any such Act shall be void.

CHAPTER III

Rights and Liabilities of registered Trade Unions

15. *Objects on which general funds may be spent.*—The general funds of a registered Trade Union shall not be spent on any other objects than the following, namely :—

(*a*) the payment of salaries, allowances and expenses to officers of the Trade Union ;

(*b*) the payment of expenses for the administration of the Trade Union, including audit of the accounts of the general funds of the Trade Union ;

(*c*) the prosecution or defence of any legal proceeding to which the Trade Union or any member thereof is a party, when such prosecution or defence is undertaken for the purpose of securing or protecting any rights of the Trade Union as such or any rights arising out of the relations of any member with his employer or with a person whom the member employs ;

(*d*) the conduct of trade disputes on behalf of the Trade Union or any member thereof ;

(*e*) the compensation of members for loss arising out of trade disputes ;

(*f*) allowances to members or their dependants on account of death, old age, sickness, accidents or unemployment of such members ;

(*g*) the issue of, or the undertaking of liability under, policies of assurance on the lives of members or under policies insuring members against sickness, accident or unemployment ;

(*h*) the provision of educational, social or religious benefits for members (including the payment of the expenses of funeral or religious ceremonies for deceased members) or for the dependants of members ;

(*i*) the upkeep of a periodical published mainly for the purpose of discussing questions affecting employers or workmen as such ;

(*j*) the payment, in furtherance of any of the objects on which the general funds of the Trade Union may be spent, of contributions to any cause intended to benefit workmen in general, provided that the expenditure in respect of such contributions in any financial year shall not at any time during that year be in excess of one-fourth of the combined total of the gross income which has up to that time accrued to the general funds of the Trade Union during that year and of the balance at the credit of those funds at the commencement of that year ; and

(*k*) subject to any conditions contained in the notification, any other object notified by the Governor-General in Council in the *Gazette of India*.

16. *Constitution of a separate fund for political purposes.*—(1) A registered Trade Union may constitute a separate fund, from contributions separately levied for or made to that fund, from which payments may be made, for the promotion of the civil and political interests of its members, in furtherance of any of the objects specified in sub-section (2).

(2) The objects referred to in sub-section (1) are :—

(*a*) the payment of any expenses incurred, either directly or indirectly, by a candidate or prospective candidate for election as a member of any legislative body constituted under the Government of India Act or of any local authority, before, during, or after the election in connection with his candidature or election ; or

(*b*) the holding of any meeting or the distribution of any literature or documents in support of any such candidate or prospective candidate ; or

(*c*) the maintenance of any person who is a member of any legislative body constituted under the Government of India Act or of any local authority ; or

(*d*) the registration of electors or the selection of a candidate for any legislative body constituted under the Government of India Act or for any local authority ; or

(*e*) the holding of political meetings of any kind, or the distribution of political literature or political documents of any kind.

(3) No member shall be compelled to contribute to the fund constituted under sub-section (1) ; and a member who does not contribute to the said fund shall not be excluded from any benefits of the Trade Union, or placed in any respect either directly or indirectly under any disability or at any disadvantage as compared with other members of the Trade Union (except in relation to the control or management of the said fund) by reason of his not contributing to the said fund ; and contribution to the said fund shall not be made a condition for admission to the Trade Union.

17. *Criminal conspiracy in trade disputes.*—No officer or member of a registered Trade Union shall be liable to punishment under sub-section (2) of section 120-B of the Indian Penal Code, in respect of any agreement made between the members for the purpose of furthering any such object of the Trade Union as is specified in section 15, unless the agreement is an agreement to commit an offence.

18. *Immunity from civil suit in certain cases.*—(1) No suit or other legal proceeding shall be maintainable in any Civil Court against any registered Trade Union or any officer or member thereof in respect of any act done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute to which a member of the Trade Union is a party on the ground only that such act induces some other person to break a contract of employment, or that it is in interference with the trade, business or employment of some other person or with the right of some other person to dispose of his capital or of his labour as he wills.

(2) A registered Trade Union shall not be liable in any suit or other legal proceeding in any Civil Court in respect of any tortious act done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute by an agent of the Trade Union if it is proved that such person acted without the knowledge of, or contrary to express instructions given by, the executive of the Trade Union.

19. *Enforceability of agreements.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, an agreement between the members of a registered Trade Union shall not be void or voidable merely by reason of the fact that any of the objects of the agreement are in restraint of trade :

Provided that nothing in this section shall enable any Civil Court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted for the express purpose of enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of any agreement concerning the conditions on which any members of a Trade Union shall or shall not sell their goods, transact business, work, employ or be employed.

20. *Right to inspect books of Trade Union.*—The account books of a registered Trade Union and the list of members thereof shall be open to inspection by an officer or member of the Trade Union at such times as may be provided for in the rules of the Trade Union.

21. *Rights of minors to membership of Trade Unions.*—Any person who has attained the age of fifteen years may be a member of a registered Trade Union subject to any rules of the Trade Union to the contrary, and may, subject as aforesaid, enjoy all the rights of a member and execute all instruments and give all acquittances necessary to be executed or given under the rules :

Provided that no person who has not attained the age of eighteen years shall be an officer of any such Trade Union.

22. *Proportion of officers to be connected with the industry.*—Not less than one-half of the total number of the officers of every registered Trade Union shall be persons actually engaged or employed in an industry with which the Trade Union is connected :

Provided that the Local Government may, by special or general order, declare that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any Trade Union or class of Trade Unions specified in the order.

23. *Change of name.*—Any registered Trade Union may, with the consent of not less than two-thirds of the total number of its members and subject to the provisions of section 25, change its name.

24. *Amalgamation of Trade Unions.*—Any two or more registered Trade Unions may become amalgamated together as one Trade Union with or without dissolution or division of the funds of such Trade Unions or either or any of them, provided that the votes of at least one-half of the members of each or every such Trade Union entitled to vote are recorded, and that at least sixty per cent. of the votes recorded are in favour of the proposal.

25. *Notice of change of name or amalgamation.*—(1) Notice in writing of every change of name and of every amalgamation, signed, in the case of a change of name, by the Secretary and by seven members of the Trade Union changing its name, and, in the case of an amalgamation, by the Secretary and by seven members of each and every Trade Union which is a party thereto, shall be sent to the Registrar, and where the head office of the amalgamated Trade Union is situated in a different province, to the Registrar of such province.

(2) If the proposed name is identical with that by which any other existing Trade Union has been registered or, in the opinion of the Registrar, so nearly resembles such name as to be likely to deceive the public or the members of either Trade Union, the Registrar shall refuse to register the change of name.

(3) Save as provided in sub-section (2), the Registrar shall, if he is satisfied that the provisions of this Act in respect of change of name have been complied with, register the change of name in the register referred to in section 8, and the change of name shall have effect from the date of such registration.

(4) The Registrar of the province in which the head office of the amalgamated Trade Union is situated shall, if he is satisfied that the provisions of this Act in respect of amalgamation have been complied with and that the Trade Union formed thereby is entitled to registration under section 6, register the Trade Union in the manner provided in section 8, and the amalgamation shall have effect from the date of such registration.

26. *Effects of change of name and of amalgamation.*—(1) The change in the name of a registered Trade Union shall not affect any rights or obligations of the Trade Union or render defective any legal proceeding by or against the Trade Union, and any legal proceeding which might have been continued or commenced by or against it by its former name may be continued or commenced by or against it by its new name.

(2) An amalgamation of two or more registered Trade Unions shall not prejudice any right of any of such Trade Unions or any right of a creditor of any of them.

27. *Dissolution.*—(1) When a registered Trade Union is dissolved, notice of the dissolution signed by seven members and by the Secretary of the Trade Union shall, within fourteen days of the dissolution, be sent to the Registrar, and shall be registered by him if he is satisfied that the dissolution has been effected in accordance with the rules of the Trade Union, and the dissolution shall have effect from the date of such registration.

(2) Where the dissolution of a registered Trade Union has been registered and the rules of the Trade Union do not provide for the distribution of funds of the Trade Union on dissolution, the Registrar shall divide the funds amongst the members in such manner as may be prescribed.

28. *Returns.*—(1) There shall be sent annually to the Registrar, on or before such date as may be prescribed, a general statement, audited in the prescribed manner, of all receipts and expenditure of every registered Trade Union during the year ending on the 31st day of March next preceding such prescribed date, and of the assets and liabilities of the Trade Union existing on such 31st day of March. The statement shall be prepared in such form and shall comprise such particulars as may be prescribed.

(2) Together with the general statement there shall be sent to the Registrar a statement showing all changes of officers made by the Trade Union during the year to which the general statement refers, together also with a copy of the rules of the Trade Union corrected up to the date of the despatch thereof to the Registrar.

(3) A copy of every alteration made in the rules of a registered Trade Union shall be sent to the Registrar within fifteen days of the making of the alteration.

CHAPTER IV

Regulations

29. *Power to make regulations.*—(1) Subject to the control of the Governor-General in Council the Local Government may make regulations for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely :—

(*a*) the manner in which Trade Unions and the rules of Trade Unions shall be registered and the fees payable on registration ;

(*b*) the transfer of registration in the case of any registered Trade Union which has changed its head office from one province to another ;

(*c*) the manner in which, and the qualifications of persons by whom, the accounts of registered Trade Unions or of any class of such Unions shall be audited ;

(*d*) the conditions subject to which inspection of documents kept by Registrars shall be allowed and the fees which shall be chargeable in respect of such inspections ; and

(*e*) any matter which is to be or may be prescribed.

30. *Publication of regulations.*—(1) The power to make regulations conferred by section 29 is subject to the condition of the regulations being made after previous publication.

(2) The date to be specified in accordance with clause (3) of section 23 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, as that after which a draft of regulations proposed to be made will be taken into consideration shall not be less than three months from the date on which the draft of the proposed regulations was published for general information.

(3) Regulations so made shall be published in the local official Gazette, and on such publication shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

CHAPTER V

Penalties and Procedure

31. *Failure to submit returns.*—(1) If default is made on the part of any registered Trade Union in giving any notice or sending any statement or other document as required by or under any provision of this Act, every officer or other person bound by the rules of the Trade Union to give or send the same, or if there is no such officer or person, every member of the executive of the Trade Union, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five rupees and, in the case of a continuing default, with an additional fine which may extend to five rupees for each week after the first during which the default continues :

Provided that the aggregate fine shall not exceed fifty rupees.

(2) Any person who wilfully makes, or causes to be made, any false entry in, or any omission from, the general statement required by section 28, or in or from any copy of rules or of alterations of rules sent to the Registrar under that section, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

32. *Supplying false information regarding Trade Unions.*—Any person who, with intent to deceive, gives to any member of a registered Trade Union or to any person intending or applying to become a member of such Trade Union any document purporting to be a copy of the rules of the Trade Union or of any alterations to the same which he knows, or has reason to believe, is not a correct copy of such rules or alterations as are for the time being in force, or any person who, with the like intent, gives a copy of any rules of an unregistered Trade Union to any person on the pretence that such rules are the rules of a registered Trade Union, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

33. *Cognizance of offences.*—(1) No Court inferior to that of a Presidency Magistrate or a Magistrate of the first class shall try any offence under this Act.

(2) No Court shall take cognizance of any offence under this Act, unless complaint thereof has been made by, or with the previous sanction of, the Registrar or, in the case of an offence under section 32, by the person to whom the copy was given, within six months of the date on which the offence is alleged to have been committed.

BOMBAY TRADE UNIONS REGULATIONS, 1927

1. *Short title.*—These regulations may be called the Bombay Trade Unions Regulations, 1927.

2. *Definitions.*—In these regulations—

(*a*) "the Act" means the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926;

(*b*) "Form" means a form appended to these regulations;

(*c*) "Section" means a section of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.

3. *Form of application for registration.*—Every application for registration of a Trade Union shall be made in Form A.

4. *Evidence to prove authority to make application.*—Upon an application for the registration of a Trade Union the Registrar may require from the applicants such evidence as may seem to him necessary to show that the applicants have been duly authorised to make the application on behalf of the Trade Union.

5. *Form of register.*—The register of Trade Unions referred to in section 8 shall be maintained in Form B.

6. *Form of certificate.*—The certificate of registration issued by the Registrar under section 9 shall be in Form C.

7. *Fee for registration.*—The fee payable on registration of a Trade Union shall be as follows:—

Rs. 5 for a Trade Union with a membership of 1000 or over.

Rs. 2 for a Trade Union with a membership of less than 1000.

8. *Withdrawal or Cancellation of Certificate of Registration*—(1) *Form of application for withdrawal or cancellation.*—Every application by a Trade Union for withdrawal or cancellation of its certificate of registration shall be sent to the Registrar in Form D.

(2) *Verification of application.*—The Registrar on receiving an application for withdrawal or cancellation of registration shall, before granting the application, verify that the application was approved in a general meeting of the Trade Union, or if it was not so approved, that it has the approval of a majority of the members of the Trade Union. For this purpose the Registrar may call for such further particulars as he may deem necessary and may examine any officer of the Union.

9. *Appeals.*—Any appeal made under sub-section (1) of section 11 shall be filed within ninety days of the date on which the Registrar passed the order against which the appeal is made.

10. *Change of address of Head Office of a Trade Union.*—Notice of any change in the address of the head office of a Trade Union shall be given to the Registrar in Form G.

11. *Transfer of Head Office of a Registered Union from one province to another province.*—(1) The Registrar, on receipt of a notice of removal of the head office of a Trade Union to another province, shall forward to the Registrar of the province to which the head office of the Trade Union has been transferred a copy of all the entries contained in the register prescribed by regulation 5.

(2) The Registrar, on receipt from the Registrar of another province of a copy of the entries contained in the register under section 8 in respect of a Trade Union the head office of which has been transferred to Bombay, shall enter the entries in his register and notify the fact to the Secretary of the Trade Union.

12. *Alteration of rules.*—(1) On receiving a copy of any alteration made in the rules of a Trade Union under sub-section (3) of section 28, the Registrar shall, unless he has reason to believe that the alteration has not been made in the manner provided by the rules of the Trade Union or unless the alteration is not in accordance with the provisions of the Act, register the alteration in a register to be maintained for this purpose and shall notify the fact that he has done so to the Secretary of the Trade Union.

(2) The fee payable for registration of alterations of rules shall be Re. 1 for each set of alterations made simultaneously.

13. *Change of name.*—(1) The notice of any change of the name of a Trade Union shall be sent to the Registrar in Form E.

(2) When the Registrar registers a change of name under section 25, sub-section (3), he shall certify under his signature at the foot of the certificate issued under regulation 6 that the new name has been registered. The Secretary shall present the certificate to the Registrar for making this entry.

14. *Amalgamation of Trade Unions—Form of Notice.*—Notice of every amalgamation shall be sent to the Registrar in duplicate in Form F.

15. *Dissolution of registered Trade Unions.*—When a registered Trade Union is dissolved, notice of the dissolution shall be sent to the Registrar in Form H.

16. *Division of funds.*—Where it is necessary for the Registrar, under sub-section (2) of section 27, to distribute the funds of a registered Trade Union which has been dissolved, he shall divide the fund among the members in proportion to the amounts contributed by them by way of subscription during their membership.

17. *Annual returns.*—The general statement to be furnished under section 28 shall be submitted to the Registrar by the 31st day of July in each year and shall be in Form I.

18. *Audit.*—(1) Save as provided in sub-regulations (2), (3), (4) and (5) of this regulation the annual audit of the accounts of any registered Trade Union shall be conducted by an auditor authorized to audit the accounts of companies under sub-section (1) of section 144 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

(2) Where the membership of a registered Trade Union did not at any time during the year ending on the 31st March exceed 2,000, the annual audit of the accounts may be conducted—

(*a*) by an examiner of local fund accounts, or

(*b*) by any local fund auditor appointed by Government, or

(*c*) by any person who, having held an appointment under Government in any audit or accounts department, is in receipt of a pension of not less than Rs. 200 per mensem.

(3) Where the membership of a registered Trade Union did not at any time during the year ending on the 31st day of March exceed 1,000, the annual audit of the accounts may be conducted—

(*a*) by any two persons holding office as a magistrate or a judge or as a councillor of any municipality or member of a district local board, or of the local Legislative Council, or of the Legislative Assembly or Council of State;

(*b*) by any person who, having held an appointment under Government in any audit or accounts department, is in receipt of a pension from Government of not less than Rs. 75 a month, or

(*c*) by any auditor appointed to conduct the audit of co-operative societies by Government or by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or by any Provincial co-operative organization recognized by Government for this purpose.

(4) Where the membership of a registered Trade Union did not at any time during the year ending on the 31st March exceed 500, the annual audit of the accounts may be conducted by any two members of such registered Trade Union.

(5) Where the registered Trade Union is a federation of Trade Unions, and the number of such Unions affiliated to it at any time during the year ending on the 31st March did not exceed 50, 15 or 5 respectively the audit of the accounts of the federation may be conducted as if it had not at any time during the year had a membership of more than 2,000, 1,000 or 500 respectively.

19. *Disqualification of auditors.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in regulation 18, no person who at any time during the year for which the accounts are to be audited was entrusted with any part of the funds or securities belonging to a registered Trade Union shall be eligible to audit the accounts of that Union.

20. The auditor or auditors appointed in accordance with these regulations shall be given access to all the books of the registered Trade Union concerned and shall verify the general statement submitted under section 28 with the accounts and vouchers relating thereto, and shall thereafter sign the auditor's declaration appended to Form I, indicating separately on that form under his signature or their signatures a statement showing in what respect he or they find the return to be incorrect, not supported by vouchers or not in accordance with the Act. The particulars given in the statement shall indicate—

(*a*) every payment which appears to be unauthorised by the rules of the registered Trade Union concerned, or contrary to the provisions of the Act,

(*b*) the amount of any deficit or loss which appears to have been incurred by the negligence or misconduct of any person,

(*c*) the amount of any sum which ought to have been but is not brought to account by any person.

21. *Audit of political fund.*—The audit of the political fund of a registered Trade Union shall be carried out along with the audit of the general account of the registered Trade Union by the same auditor or auditors.

22. *Inspection of register and documents.*—(1) The register of Trade Unions maintained in accordance with regulation 5 shall be open to inspection by any person on payment of a fee of annas eight.

(2) Any documents in the possession of the Registrar received from a registered Trade Union may be inspected by any member of that Union on payment of a fee of annas eight for each document inspected.

(3) Documents shall be open to inspection every day on which the office of the Registrar is open and within such hours as may be fixed for this purpose by the Registrar.

FORM A

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Application for Registration of Trade Unions

Name of Trade Union Address :

Dated the day of 19 .

1. This application is made by the persons whose names are subscribed at the foot hereof.

2. The name under which it is proposed that the Trade Union on behalf of which this application is made shall be registered is.....as set forth in Rule No

3. The address of the Head Office of the Union to which all communications and notices may be addressed is.....

4. The.....Union came into existence on the day of.....19 .

5. The Union is a union of employers/workers engaged in the..... industry/*or*.....profession/*or*.....(establishment), and has.....members.

6. The particulars required by section 5 (1) (*c*) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 are given in Schedule I.

7. The particulars given in Schedule II show the provision made in the rules for the matters detailed in Section 6 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.

8. (To be struck out in the case of Unions which have not been in existence for one year before the date of application.) The particulars required by section 5 (2) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, are given in Schedule III.

9. One copy of the Rules of the Union, is attached to this application.

10. We have been duly authorised by the Trade Union to make this application on its behalf, such authorisation consisting of

——	Signature	Occupation	Address
(Signed) 1. ..			
2. ..			
3. ..			
4. ..			
5. ..			
6. ..			
7. ..			

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,

Secretariat, Bombay.

State here whether the authority to make this application was made by a "resolution of a general meeting of the Trade Union" or, if not, in what other way it was given.

FORM A

SCHEDULE I

Trade Unions Act, 1926

List of Officers

Name of Trade Union.

Office held in Union	Name	Age	Address	Occupation

SCHEDULE II

References to rules

The numbers of the rules making provision for the several matters detailed in column 1 are given in column 2 below :—

1 Matter	2 Numbers of rules
Name of Union.	
The whole of the objects for which the Union has been established.	
The whole of the purposes for which the general funds of the Union shall be applicable.	
The maintenance of a list of members.	
The facilities provided for the inspection of the list of members by officers and members.	
The admission of ordinary members.	
The admission of honorary or temporary members.	
The conditions under which members are entitled to benefits assured by the rules.	
The conditions under which fines or forfeitures can be imposed or varied.	
The manner in which the rules shall be amended, varied or rescinded.	
The manner in which the members of the executive and the other officers of the union shall be appointed and removed.	
The safe custody of the funds.	
The annual audit of the accounts.	
The facilities for the inspection of the account books by officers and members.	
The manner in which the union may be dissolved.	

SCHEDULE III

(This need not be filled in if the Union came into existence less than one year before the date of application for Registration.)

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on the day of 19

Liabilities	Rs. a. p.	Assets	Rs. a. p.
Amount of general fund ..		Cash :—	
Amount of political fund ..		In hands of Treasurer.	
		In hands of Secretary.	
		In hands of	
Loans from—		In the Bank	
		In the Bank	
Debts due to		Securities as per list below	
		Unpaid subscriptions due	
Other liabilities (to be specified)		Loans to—	
		Immoveable property	
		Goods and furniture	
		Other assets (to be specified)	
Total Liabilities ..		Total Assets ..	

List of Securities

Particulars	Face value	Cost price	Market value	In hands of

(Signed) 1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

FORM B

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Address of Head Office

Subsequent changes of the address of the Head Office—

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Date of Registration

Number of application form

Remarks : —

Names of Members making application—

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Officers (Transfers from one post to another count as relinquishment of appointment held)

Year of entering on Office	Name	Office held in Union	Age on entry	Address	Occupation	Year of relinquishing Office	Other offices held in addition to membership of executive with dates

FORM C

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Certificate of Registration of Trade Union

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Office of the Registrar of Trade Unions :
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

It is hereby certified that the Union has been registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, this day of 19, .

Seal

Registrar of Trade Unions
for the Bombay Presidency.

FORM D

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Request to withdraw or cancel Certificate of Registration

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Address :

Dated the day of 19 .

To
The Registrar of Trade Unions, Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Bombay.

The abovementioned Trade Union desires that its certificate of registration under the Trade Unions Act, 1926, may be withdrawn (*or* cancelled) and at a general meeting* duly held on the day of 19 it was resolved as follows :—

(Here give exact copy of Resolution.)

(Signed)

* If not at a general meeting, state in what manner the request has been determined upon.

FORM E

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of Change of Name

Name of Trade Union already registered

Registration Number

Address:

Dated this day of 19

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,

Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that the provisions of section 23 of the Trade Unions Act having been complied with the name of the abovementioned Trade Union has been changed to

The consent of the members was obtained by*

(Signed) 1. Secretary.

2

3.

4.

5. } Members.

6.

7.

8.

**i.e.*, by referendum, resolution of a general meeting, etc. If procedure followed is covered by rule quote number of the rule.

FORM F

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of Amalgamation of Trade Unions

A. Name of Registered Trade Union

Number of Registration

B. Name of Registered Trade Union

Number of Registration
(and so on if more than two).

Address :

Dated the day of 19 .

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,

Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the requirements of section 24 of the abovemen tioned Act the members of each (or every one) of the abovementioned Trade Unions have resolved to become amalgamated together as one Trade Union.

And that the following are the terms of the said amalgamation (*state the terms*).

And that it is intended that the Trade Union shall henceforth be called the

Accompanying this notice is a copy of the rules intended to be henceforth adopted by the amal-gamated Trade Union which are the rules (if so) of the Union.

(To be signed by seven members and the Secretary of each Trade Union.)

Name and address to which registered copy is to be sent.

(Signed) 1. Secretary.

2.

3.

4.

5. Members.

6.

7.

8.

FORM G

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of change of address of the Head Office of a Registered Trade Union

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Address

Dated this day of 19 .

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions, Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that the Head Office of the abovementioned Trade Union has been removed from and is now situated at in City (*or* town, *or* District).

(Signed)

Secretary.

This part to be detached by the Registrar when the notice is registered, and returned to the Trade Union.

Received this day of 19 notice of removal of the Head Office of the Register No. to City (*or* town, *or* District).

(Signed)

Registrar of Trade Unions
for the Bombay Presidency.

Seal.

FORM H

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

Notice of the Dissolution of a Trade Union

Name of Trade Union

Registration Number

Address :

Dated this day of 19

To

The Registrar of Trade Unions for the Bombay Presidency,
Secretariat, Fort, Bombay.

Notice is hereby given that the abovementioned Trade Union was dissolved in pursuance of the rules thereof on the day of 19 .

We have been duly authorised by the Union to forward this notice on its behalf, such authorisation consisting of a resolution passed at a general meeting on the* day of 19 .

(Signed) 1. Secretary.
2.
3.
4.
5. Members.
6.
7.
8.

* Here insert the date, or if there was no such resolution, state in what other way the authorisation was given.

FORM I

Annual Return prescribed under section 28 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, for the year ending 31st March 19

Name of Union

Registered Head Office

Number of certificate of registration

Return to be made by federations of trade unions.

A. Number of unions affiliated at beginning of year*

B Number of unions joining during year*

C. Number of unions disaffiliated during year*

D. Number of unions affiliated at end of year

This return need not be made by federations of trade unions.

Number of members on books at the beginning of year.

Number of members admitted during the year (add)

Together

Number of members who left during the year (deduct)

Total number of members on books at the end of the year

Males.

Females.

Number of members contributing to Political Fund.

A copy of the rules of the Trade Union corrected up to the date of despatch of this return is appended.

Dated the

Secretary.

* The names of the affiliated and disaffiliated unions should be given in separate statements marked 'A,' 'B' and 'C'.

FORM I—*contd.*

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on the day of 19

Liabilities	Rs. a. p.	Assets	Rs. a. p.
Amount of general fund ..		Cash—	
Amount of political fund ..		In hands of Treasurer ..	
Loans from—		In hands of Secretary ..	
		In hands of ..	
		In the Bank	
		In the Bank	
Debts due to—		Securities as per list below ..	
		Unpaid subscriptions due ..	
		Loans to—	
Other liabilities (to be specified) ..		Immoveable property ..	
		Goods and furniture ..	
		Other assets (to be specified) ..	
Total liabilities ..		Total assets ..	

List of Securities

Particulars	Face value	Cost price	Market price at date on which accounts have been made up	In hands of

Treasurer.

FORM I—*contd.*

General Fund Account

Income	Rs. a. p.	Expenditure	Rs. a. p.
Balance at beginning of year ..		Salaries, allowances and expenses of officers ..	
Contributions from members at per member ..		Salaries, allowances and expenses of establishment ..	
Donations		Auditors' Fees	
Sale of periodicals, books, rules, etc.		Legal expenses	
Interest on investments		Expenses in conducting trade disputes	
Income from miscellaneous sources (to be specified) ..		Compensation paid to members for loss arising out of trade disputes	
		Funeral, old age, sickness, unemployment benefits, etc.	
		Educational, social and religious benefits	
		Cost of publishing periodicals..	
		Rents, rates and taxes ..	
		Stationery, printing and postage	
		Expenses incurred under section 15 (*j*) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (to be specified)	
		Other expenses (to be specified)	
		Balance at the end of year ..	
Total ..		Total ..	

Political Fund Account

	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Balance at beginning of year ..		Payments made on objects specified in section 16 (*2*) of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (to be specified) ..	
Contributions from members at per member ..		Expenses of management (to be fully specified) ..	
		Balance at end of year ..	
Total ..		Total ..	

Treasurer.

FORM I—*contd.*

Auditor's Declaration

The undersigned, having had access to all the books and accounts of the Trade Union, and having examined the foregoing statements and verified the same with the account vouchers relating thereto, now sign the same as found to be correct, duly vouched and in accordance with the law, subject to the remarks, if any, appended hereto.

Auditor

Auditor

The following changes of officers have been made during the year :—

Officers Relinquishing Office

Name	Office	Date of relinquishing office

Officers Appointed

Name	Date of birth	Private address	Personal occupation	Title of position held in union	Date on which appointment in column 5 was taken up	Other offices held in addition to membership of executive with dates
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Secretary.

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Returns for Second Quarter 1927

MEMBERSHIP STATIONARY

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1927. The latest information for the second quarter of the present year is summarised in three tables on pages 944 to 961 of this issue. Table I gives the names of the Federations or Associations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the names of the principal office-bearers of each Federation, and the names of the affiliated Unions in each case. Table II gives, by localities or centres, the names of all Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the number of members in each Union and the names and addresses of the principal office-bearers. Table III shows the rates of membership fees for different classes of members, the average monthly income for the latest quarter for which information is available and the average monthly expenditure in the same way for each of the Unions given in Table II.

The information in connection with Trade Unions is collected through Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency including Sind. The information for all the Unions affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association and the Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union is procured from time to time from the head offices of these Associations in Bombay. Every endeavour is made to include in the quarterly review all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, but it often happens that some Union or Unions do not notify their existence to the authorities concerned with the collection of the necessary information. It would be advisable both in the interests of the Unions themselves and of the Labour Office, if the persons who are concerned with the creation of new Unions notify their formation either to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence (Labour Office) at Bombay or to the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad.

The outstanding feature in connection with the Trade Union movement in India during the quarter under review is that the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, was brought into force with effect from the 1st June 1927. The Director of Information and Labour Intelligence of the Government of Bombay has been appointed as the first Registrar of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency. The main Act and the Trade Unions Regulations framed for the administration of the Act in the Bombay Presidency are printed on pages 901 to 920 of this issue.

The outstanding feature in connection with the Trade Union movement in the Bombay Presidency during the quarter under review is the creation of 9 new Unions in Bombay City: (1) The Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union; (2) The Municipal Subordinate Officials' Union; (3) The Jari Workers' (Gold thread workers') Union; (4) The Bombay Tramwaymen's Union; (5) The British India Steam Navigation Company's Staff Union; (6) The G. I. P. Railway General Staff Union; (7) The Kasbi Karegars' Union; (8) The Press Workers' Union; and, (9) The Shop Assistants' Union. The existence of the Military Accounts

Association at Poona with a membership of 1600 which was formed in January 1920 was not known up to a couple of months ago. This Association is a Union of the members of the Military Accounts Department and full information in connection with this Association is incorporated in the two tables referred to above. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union has been successful in organising the postmen and the lower grade staff of the Konkan Postal Division into a separate Union. The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices' Union which had been reported upon in the two previous reviews which were published in the issues of December 1926 and March 1927 is now reported as not having come into existence. The name of this Union has, therefore, been removed from the Labour Office list of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency.

The total number of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency now stands at 66 as compared with 56 as reported in the March issue of the *Labour Gazette*. Out of this number there are 30 Unions in Bombay City, 9 Unions in Ahmedabad and 27 Unions in the rest of the Presidency. The total membership of these Unions stands at 75,847 as compared with 75,602 showing a small increase of ·32 per cent. which, for all practical purposes, may be considered as stationary. In view of the fact that 11 new Unions with a total membership of over 5000 have been added during the quarter under review, the total membership of all the Unions in the Bombay Presidency should show a substantial increase. The fact that this is not so is due to a large fall in the membership of the two North Western Railway Unions at Sukkur and Karachi, in the Weavers' Union in Ahmedabad and in the Bombay Textile Labour Union in Bombay. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City rose from 49,140 to 51,111 or by 4·01 per cent. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions rose from 17,645 to 18,028 or by 2·17 per cent. The number of members in the Unions in the rest of the Presidency fell from 8817 to 6708 or by 23·92 per cent. which is due, as already stated, to a sharp fall of 3700 in the membership of the two North Western Railway Unions. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions :—

Summary Table showing the membership of the Unions

Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
June 1922 ..	22	57,914	..	Mar 1925..	36	51,625	— 1·25
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	— 8·87	June 1925..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	— 2·47	Sept 1925..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	— 5·45	Dec 1925..	38	49,318	— 8·97
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+ 5·08	Mar 1926..	51	59,544	+20·73
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	—18·77	June 1926..	53	64,572	+ 8·44
Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+10·54	Sept 1926..	56	72,411	+12·14
Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5·4	Dec 1926..	56	74,875	+ 3·4
June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2·5	Mar 1927..	56	75,602	+ 0·97
Sept 1924 ..	21	47,242	— 5·0	June 1927..	66	75,847	+ 0·32
Dec 1924 ..	36	52,227	+10·7				

Federations of Trade Unions

Table I on pages 944 and 945 of this issue shows that there are five Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—(1) The Central Labour Board in Bombay; (2) the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association with its head office in Bombay; (3) the Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union also with its head office in Bombay; (4) the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union with its head office in Bombay; and (5) the Labour Union in Ahmedabad. The last is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. It is now understood that this Union has adopted a new constitution which it intends to bring into force as soon as possible. In accordance with the terms of this constitution the Labour Union office will constitute itself into a proper Federation in accordance with the provisions of the Trade Unions Act. The constitution of the first three Federations and the terms of affiliation of each of their members was fully described in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 and March 1926.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union which had been reported as a Federation of the three Unions of the Port Trust Workers in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1926 decided not to function as a Federation but as a Central Council of the Bombay Port Trust Employees. This Council is composed of representatives from each of the three Port Trust Unions and functions only where the interests of all the workers of the different departments of the Bombay Port Trust are concerned. The constitution of the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union still remains undecided. In the present article it is only necessary to deal with those Federations whose activities were of particular interest during the quarter under review.

The Central Labour Board.—The intensive propaganda carried on by the Board during the first quarter of the current year in endeavouring to organise the workpeople in different industries and different establishments in Bombay City into Trade Unions was very successful in as much as the Board was able to form 9 new Unions in Bombay City. In view of the heavy work involved in connection with the formation of these Unions the officers of the Board did not have much time at their disposal to carry on their Purity Mission campaign. But in spite of this they gave two or three lectures on temperance, thrift and hygiene at different places in indusrial localities during the last three months. It is reported that the Board now contemplates the engagement of a competent paid Secretary and the hiring of rooms where a proper library and an office can be maintained.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.—The most important event during the quarter under review from the view point of the members of this Association is the success which the Association has achieved in securing a revision in the scale of the pay of the lower grade clerical staff of the Postal Department at all places in the Presidency from Rs. 35—120 to Rs. 40—140 in twenty years with effect from the 1st March 1927. The revised scales are not introduced on the "point to point"

system, but under Fundamental Rule No. 22. The senior staff is stated to have derived no benefit by this revision, but a substantial advance has been made owing to the fact that the selection grades are also revised. Hitherto there were two selection grades, *viz.*, 145—5—170 and 175—10—225. These two grades are now to be amalgamated and the revised grade will be 160—10—250.

The seventh session of the All India Postal and R. M. S. Conference was held at Nagpur on 11th and 12th June 1927 under the presidentship of Dr. B. S. Moonje, M.L.A. The full account of the proceedings of this conference will be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1927.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.—This Association of 10 Unions of postmen and lower grade staff of the Postal Department in the Bombay Presidency held their fourth Provincial Conference at Belgaum on the 4th and 5th June 1927 under the presidentship of Mr. M. R. Jayakar, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. In his presidential address Mr. Jayakar gave special prominence to the revision proposed to be made in the rates of wages payable to postmen in Bombay. He said that the first proposal of Government was that in place of the present scale of Rs. 27—1—45 a scale of Rs. 30—1—50 with a house-rent allowance of Rs. 8-8-0 per month should be adopted for Bombay. The postmen's counter-proposal made without prejudice to the demands contained in the representations of 1926 is that the pay should be fixed at Rs. 40—1—60 in a consolidated form, *i.e.*, inclusive of the house-rent allowance which should not be separately given. The Union represent that in amalgamating the house-rent they are only asking to be put on the same footing as the postal clerks in whose case there is no system of granting separate house-rent allowances. Reference was also made in Mr. Jayakar's speech to the proposals discussed in connection with the revision of the scale of wages paid to Readers and Overseers in the Postal Department.

The Conference adopted various resolutions in connection with the revision of the scales of pay of the different classes of lower grade postal employees according to the minimum demands submitted by postmen and lower grade staff to Government in the month of March 1925; for making sufficient provision of reserve staff to facilitate granting of leave on full pay to members of the lower grade staff in the post office in the same way as is now granted to postmen; for adequate uniforms and equipment; for non-renewal of the Security Bond after 10 years' service; and, for the grant of coal, water and other allowances to postmen in mofussil centres. Resolutions expressing loyalty to His Majesty the King Emperor, congratulating Mr. H. A. Sams, I.C.S., C.I.E., on his appointment as Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs and Mr. P. G. Rogers, I.C.S., on his appointment as Deputy Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs and expressing gratitude to the Honourable Sir B. N. Mitra, Member in charge of Posts and Telegraphs in the Government of India for his sympathetic attitude towards the postmen and the lower grade staff in the post office as expressed in his speech at the last session of the Legislative Assembly, were also adopted.

The Ahmedabad Labour Union.—The Labour Investigator at Ahmedabad reports that during the quarter under review the Ahmedabad Labour Union besides carrying on their routine work regularly showed particular activity in several directions. In order to induce labourers to abstain from drink and from other undesirable practices usually indulged in at the time of the Holi Festival, an excellent programme of entertainments consisting of *Kathas, Bhajans*, cinemas, games, etc., was organised by the Union. These entertainments proved very popular and are stated to have had the effect intended. The Joint Council of Representatives of the Throstle and Frame Unions passed two important resolutions—one relating to the custom of giving bribes at the time of entering into the service of a mill and the other relating to the delay involved in the present system of settling disputes. It was decided to open up a Labour Exchange in order to mitigate the evil of bribes and to establish a Joint Committee of the Labour Union and the Millowners' Association in order to expedite the quick settlement of disputes and complaints. This question is under the joint discussion of the Millowners' Association and the Labour Union and it is hoped that the negotiations which are being carried on at present will be successful in the early creation of the Joint Committee. The agitation carried on by the Union in connection with the pernicious system of bribery has met with partial success in that one mill dismissed an assistant spinning master for accepting bribes and another mill similarly punished a head jobber after finding him guilty of accepting bribes for several months past.

Propaganda work with a view to increase the membership, consolidate the strength of the Union and retain the ground already covered has been and is being carried on vigorously in various ways. One or two meetings are held at each mill in Ahmedabad every month. Essays and opinions on the question as to how to increase the membership have been called for and prizes to the best suggestions offered will be awarded. The *Majur Sandesh*—the weekly periodical of the Union, is now being published with attractive and useful pictures and instructive and important articles, both of considerable educational value. Two issues of the illustrated edition were published during the quarter and the paper is reported as becoming very popular amongst the millhands and labourers in the Northern Division.

There has been a very striking fall in the membership of the Weavers' Union during the last few months, *i.e.*, from 3155 to 625. The cause for this fall is attributed to communal reasons. The Muhammadan members are stated to be withdrawing in large numbers and the Labour Union is considering the question of asking the Hindu members also to withdraw in order to avoid a permanent split between the two communities. It is anticipated that the Weavers' Union will soon be wound up and revived again in the same or another form later on as soon as the feelings between the two communities become better. The Doffers' Union which had been formed some time ago has suspended its activities for the time being for the reason that its members are not taking much interest in it or availing themselves of the facilities provided.

Under the auspices of the *Samaj Sudhara Sangha*, a special meeting was held during the month of May in order to launch an extensive temperance

campaign. A ceremony of taking oaths took place before the meeting assembled when as many as 55 millhands solemnly declared on oath that they would give up drinking and never touch liquor again. The Union has established a reading club for the benefit of its members where the sacred Hindu scriptures such as the *Ramayana*, the *Mahabharatha*, etc., are read out by Pundits and explained to audiences composed of millworkers.

The normal activities of the Union were carried on with considerable vigour. The Majur Savings Bank of the Labour Union from which loans are given to workmen at moderate rates of interest (6 per cent.) principally on the security of ornaments, is reported to have loaned out amounts totalling Rs. 30,000. The total attendance at the hospital and the two dispensaries of the Union amounted to 7000 out of which 3500 were treated as outdoor patients and 66 as indoor patients. The number of surgical operations performed was 31. The number of educational establishments now conducted by the Union amounts to 9 day schools, 14 night schools, 2 Montesorri schools and one boarding school. The attendance in the day schools was 698 boys and 68 girls, 572 in the night schools, 56 in the Montessori schools and 36 in the boarding school. The average attendance was 75 per cent. in the day schools and 68 per cent. in the night schools. The Union is now contemplating opening a girls' school. A special hotel and restaurant have been opened in addition to the cheap grain shops which are being conducted by the Union.

The number of complaints registered with the Union during the quarter under review amounted to 169. Sixty-eight complaints were handled successfully, 3 were compromised and 3 were unsuccessful. Sixteen complaints were closed for various reasons, 2 false complaints were rejected, and the remainder are pending. The Union instituted a suit in the Law Courts as a result of which the forfeited pay of a worker in one of the mills was awarded to him. The Union was also successful in securing amounts totalling Rs. 3,000 as awards under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.—The Officials of this Union state that they have been able to make little progress during the quarter under review either in the work of the re-organisation of the Federation or in consolidating individual Unions owing to the silence of the Railway Authorities with regard to the several representations put up by the Federation for the removal of specific grievances. The Federation hopes that as soon as they register the Unions under their control due recognition will be granted to them by the Railway Administration.

PROGRESS OF INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY

The Bombay Textile Labour Union.—The membership of the Bombay Textile Labour Union fell from 9766 to 7425 during the quarter. This fall has been mainly attributed to the failure of the Union in redressing the grievances of the workers during the two strikes in the Emperor Edward and the Madhowji Dharamsi Mills. Another reason for the fall is the removal of the names of several members who have not paid their arrears of subscriptions. The Union held 16 propaganda meetings and 2 election meetings during the quarter under review. The Kurla Centre Committee met 7 times and the Madanpura Centre Committee 3 times. Altogether

14 meetings of the different mill committees were held at Madanpura during the past three months and the Managing Committee met three times. Two representatives of the workers were sent to the Seventh Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress which was held at Delhi in the month of March. The Anglo-Vernacular Night School which has been established at Kurla by the Union is reported to be progressing satisfactorily. The number of complaints received during the quarter amounted to 55 of which 9 were handled successfully, 2 were dropped and 44 are still pending.

The Union has published its first annual report. The statements of accounts published in the report show that the total revenue in subscriptions during the year 1926 amounted to Rs. 17,333-5-9. Interest on current and fixed deposits realised Rs. 78-5-0. Expenses of management amounted to Rs. 6884-1-0. The cost of the representation made by the textile workers to the Tariff Board was Rs. 307-6-0. An amount of Rs. 334-8-0 was forwarded as the Union's contribution to British strikers. The balance sheet shows that the position of the Union on its first year's working is a very satisfactory one. The assets as at 31st December 1926 show office furniture and equipment valued at Rs. 263-10-0, sundry advances amounting to Rs. 135-3-3 and cash and bank balances amounting to Rs. 8833-15-3.

The report states that as this was the first year of the Union's career, the Union could not undertake, on financial grounds, any benefit schemes for its members. It directed its attention mainly to the task of redressing the workers' grievances. During the period under report, the Union received 260 complaints of which 89 were handled successfully, 50 unsucessfully, 22 were compromised, 77 were dropped and 22 were pending when the year closed. The percentages of successful and unsuccessful complaints and those compromised to the total number of complaints disposed of were 37·4, 21·0 and 9·2 respectively. These complaints were received from 54 out of about 80 mills in Bombay. The largest number of complaints received from one single mill was 62 and the smallest number one. The following table summarises the position with regard to the nature of the complaints received and their disposal :—

Nature of complaints	Total No. of complaints	Successful	Unsuccessful	Compromised	Dropped or cancelled	Pending
1. Dismissal	66	27	18	..	17	4
2. Refusal to re-employ ..	17	3	8	..	6	..
3. Reduction in rates of wages ..	11	1	2	1	6	1
4. Withholding of wages ..	63	33	3	..	11	16
5. Fines	37	1	14	17	5	..
6. Strikes	5	1	..	3	1	..
7. Assaults	8	3	..	..	5	..
8. Compensation for accidents ..	15	4	..	..	10	1
9. Gratuity and Provident Fund ..	8	3	1	..	4	..
10. Breaches of the Factories Act ..	2	1	..	..	1	..
11. Miscellaneous	28	12	4	1	11	..
Total ..	260	89	50	22	77	22

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Limited.—According to the latest information available, the number of members standing on the rolls of the Society amounts to 2246. The following table shows the distribution of the members over the various Railways in India :—

Railway Administration	Class of members					Total number of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
G. I. P. Railway	832	73	36	28	42	1,011
B. B. & C. I. Railway	67	18	13	24	27	149
M. & S. M. Railway	53	37	28	117	59	294
S. I. Railway	52	14	15	8	13	102
N. W. Railway	87	5	8	14	1	115
N. G. S. Railway	31	21	23	66	18	159
E. I. Railway	192	12	4	23	11	242
O. & R. Railway	14	13	3	2	2	34
Other Railways	52	18	24	40	6	140
Total ..	1,380	211	154	322	179	2,246

The number of members of the different classes shown against each Railway are those who definitely belong to one or other of the 52 branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. The number of members on the rolls of the Society's Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund amounted to 1562, the Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund 100 and the Family Benefit Fund 443. The average monthly income during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 2550 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 2300.

Indian Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 15,145 to 15,436 during the quarter. The distribution of the membership in the three departments which comprise the Union is as follows :—

Deck Department	1,920
Engine Department	2,464
Saloon Department	11,052
Total ..	15,436

The revenue of the Union from the Saloon Department amounted to Rs. 4223 during the quarter under review and that from the Deck and Engine Departments to Rs. 1803. In view of the separation of several members of the Saloon Department some time ago into a separate Seamen's Union and the heavy legal expenses necessitated as a result of the prosecution of the President of the Union, the Indian Seamen's Union experienced considerable financial difficulties with falling revenue and increased expenditure. An endeavour is now being made to adjust the liabilities incurred during the last few months and it is reported that an amount of Rs. 4173 was utilised in this connection during the last three months. The expenditure in connection with the maintenance of the Deck and Engine Departments amounted to Rs. 1550. The revenue from these

departments is at present confined to the realisation of the entrance fee of Re. 1 per member. The subscriptions from the members of the Saloon Department are reported as having fallen badly into arrears on account of the fact that the majority of the members have remained unemployed for periods ranging from 1 to 3 years. In consideration of these arrears of subscriptions the membership fee has been reduced from Rs. 6 per annum to Rs. 3 per annum.

The General Secretary of the Union reports that vigorous efforts have been made during the last two months to bring about an amalgamation of the Indian Seamen's Union and the newly formed Seamen's Union. The authorities of the P. & O. Company, the Government Shipping Office and well-meaning persons such as Mr. Frank Olivera and Mr. Joseph Baptista were approached by the officials of the Union to negotiate in the matter, but the expected amalgamation has not yet been effected. The Union has also been making constant efforts to secure employment for its unemployed members especially those of the Saloon Department, but in view of the fact that the principal ship-owners and their agents pass most of their orders for Saloon Crew to the new Union serious unemployment among the members of the old Union continues.

The Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union has remained steady at 8000 during the last 3 months. It has increased its revenue from an average of Rs. 1696 per month to Rs. 2173-10-8 per month. The average monthly expenditure during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 1628-10-0. The Saloon crew are stated to be looking to the Union with confidence. The Shipping Companies, especially the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company, are well disposed towards this Union and give adequate facilities to regulate the service of its members by turns, but in view of the increasing unemployment, the officials of this Union have approached the Company to frame rules to regulate the periods of service of the members of the saloon crew. The Company is stated to have assured the Union of their co-operation in this matter.

With regard to the question of the amalgamation of the two Seamen's Unions, the Secretary of the Seamen's Union states that the members of his Union demand that in the event of an amalgamation, the reconstituted Union should be confined, as formerly, to members of the Goanese Saloon Crew under the presidentship of Mr. Joseph Baptista, Bar.-at-law, and not include in its membership persons from the Deck and Engine Departments which now constitute an important part of the old Union.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandals.—In the previous review it was stated that the President of the Chinchpokli Mandal, Mr. D. A. Bhatawadekar, reported that he does not intend to continue his Union on a separate basis and that he has decided to merge his Union into the other Mahamandals which are controlled by Mr. D. R. Mayekar. The meeting which it was proposed to hold in this connection has not yet taken place but it is reported that a joint session of the members of these three Unions will be held next month in order to form a Central Union with branch offices in the same way as was done by the Bombay Textile Labour Union.

The number of members of the Prabhadevi Mandal fell from 1012 to 1009 and that of the Ghorupdeo Mandal increased from 649 to 652. The Union received 4 complaints during the quarter under review all of which were disposed of satisfactorily. A night-school which imparts instructions to 24 students has been opened at Dadar. Mr. Mayekar's Unions are agents for selling tickets for the Co-operative Steam Navigation Company for which work they receive commission. The income accruing to the funds of the Union from this source amounted to Rs. 153 during March, Rs. 114 during April and Rs. 232 during May. A donation of Rs. 200 is reported to have been received from Mr. P. Hunter for the funds of the night-school.

Government Peons' and Menials' Union.—It was reported in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1927 that the Government of Bombay accorded official recognition to the Union in a Government Resolution dated 9th February 1927. It is now understood that the Government of India have also granted official recognition to this Union. According to the latest information available the distribution of the members of this Union over different Government offices is as follows :—

New Custom House	141
Income Tax Office	110
High Court	89
Old Custom House	74
Secretariat	70
Accountant General 's Office	48
Small Causes Court	40
Public Works Department Secretariat ..	24
Police Courts	3
Total ..	599

The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 2300 to 2900 during the last 3 months. The average monthly income has increased from Rs. 654 to Rs. 955-14-10 and the average monthly expenditure from Rs. 248 to Rs. 396-4-2. The Co-operative Credit Society of this Union has an effective membership of 102 members. The Union held several meetings during the quarter at Kurla, Kalyan and Neral in order to organise the Traffic and Station staffs of the Railway into Unions.

The Bombay Currency Association.—The membership of this Union remains stationary at 216 but 75 members who belong to the menial staff are stated to be on the point of seceding from the Union in order either to join the Government Peons' and Menials' Union or to form a separate Union of their own. The All-India Currency Offices' Union held a joint session in Madras last April. The Bombay Currency Association sent a representative to attend the meeting. Several matters regarding pay and prospects and provident fund rules were discussed. The position of the staff under the future currency policy of India also formed an important item on the agenda list.

The Jari Workers' (Gold thread Workers') Union.—This Union which was formed in March 1927 owes its origin to a dispute between the *Karegars* (workmen) and the *Karkhandars* (workshop owners) in the gold thread industry over the question of rates of wages to be paid to the workers. The *Karkhandars* wanted their workmen to bind themselves down to a particular set of rules of their own making. This the workers refused to do and they went on strike for a period of 20 days. As a result of the strike the *Karkhandars* recognised the Union and agreed to the rate of 14 annas per tola demanded by the workers. The Union is under the presidentship of Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla and is composed of 175 members.

The Kasbi Karegars' Union.—This Union formed in April 1927 is also a Union of the workers in the gold and silver embroidery industry but it has a wider membership and includes all grades of workers as distinguished from the Jari or Gold Thread Workers' Union described above. The main object of the formation of this Union is to prevent the *Dukandars* and *Karkhandars* from sending their work out on contract to different parts of India and thereby throwing their workers in Bombay City out of employment. The workers have combined to prevent this and are contemplating going on strike to enforce their views if the owners do not accede to their demand to stop sending out their work from Bombay. This Union is also under the presidentship of Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla and it has a membership of 1200 as on the 1st June.

The Shop Assistants' Union.—This Union formed in the month of May is confined for the present to employees working in the shops of provision and foreign liquor merchants. The main object underlying the formation of these workers into a Union is an attempt to fix minimum rates of wages and satisfactory rules for leave.

The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.—The membership of this Union has remained practically stationary during the quarter under review, the difference from the figure 1080 reported in the previous review being a fall of 7. This Union has been successful in starting a new branch Union of the workers of the Bombay Port Trust under the name of the Bombay Port Trust Land and Bundars Staff Union. No further information with regard to the constitution of this branch Union or with regard to its membership was available at the time of going to press.

In view of the recognition accorded to this Union by the Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust, the Union has been very successful in securing redress of several grievances submitted to the Port Trust authorities. During the past six years promotions were alleged to have been made irrespective of seniority and the work of qualified persons. The Union submitted a representation to the Chairman by giving specific instances where undeserving persons had been given promotions in supersession of the claims of senior hands. Bulletin No. 3 issued by the Union states that the Chairman has now been pleased to issue orders that strict seniority should be observed in future in making appointments and the Union notes with satisfaction that at least in the majority of cases seniority has been maintained for the last six months. The Bulletin also states that the introduction of Rota Nights considerably affected certain sections of the out-door staff. On an average, clerks had to sacrifice Rs. 216 per annum

per head of their extra income and the Assistant Shed Superintendents Rs. 288 per annum per head from 1924. The Union notes with pleasure that this great injustice has been done away with by the Chairman from the current month. The Union has submitted further representations to the authorities in connection with the removal of the Night Rota for the clerical staff; stopping of the increments of the members of the menial staff for the last four years; the extension of the privileges of subscribing to provident funds to the menials of the Hamallage and other Departments of the Port Trust; same rates of wages for night duty to members of the menial staff as are given to other workers in the Port Trust; the grant of 14 days casual leave for menials as is granted to the Mazagon Dock and other workers, etc.

The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 458 to 512 during the quarter under review. An extraordinary meeting of the Union was held on 1st June at Frere Bundar at which resolutions were passed demanding promotions and increments which were overdue to the clerical staff of the Bombay Port Trust Railway and requesting the authorities to redress the grievances of the men regarding rents, clothing, free passes, fines and casual leave, etc., as soon as possible.

The Remaining Unions in Bombay City.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of the rest of the Bombay Unions. The latest information in connection with the membership, income and expenditure of all Unions not specifically dealt with in this review is given in Tables II and III printed on pages 946 to 961 of this issue.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the six Unions of the cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been dealt with under the head "Federations of Trade Unions."

The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.—The membership of this Union has increased from 6142 to 6927 during the quarter under report. The President and the Secretary of the Association met the Agent of the B. B. & C. I. Railway in April last in connection with the question of recognition of the Association and matters of detail concerning the conduct of business and negotiations between the Association and the Railway Administration in future. The Agent agreed to recognise the Association as soon as it is registered under the Trade Unions Act.

The membership of this Union is scattered over the whole of the B. B. & C. I. Railway organisation and it is composed of Railway employees of all castes and creeds. The Association intends to open up two branch offices shortly at Ajmer and Baroda and these will be in charge of responsible district organisers. The administration of the Union is under an Executive Committee of 25 members elected from different departments of the Railway service and representative of the whole administration. For active organisation work there is a special sub-committee of 5 members. The accounts of the Union are under the continual supervision of a special committee of auditors consisting of responsible Railway Officers, one of whom is the Inspector of Accounts. The Head Office of the Union at Ahmedabad maintains contact with the members posted

at various stations through sub-committees which have been formed at several centres for taking instructions with regard to representations of specific grievances.

REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

In view of the winding up of the two Unions of cotton mill operatives at Broach, the majority of the remaining Unions in the Bombay Presidency outside the cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad are Postal Unions, affiliated either to the Bombay Presidency Postal Association or to the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union. The activities of these Unions are more or less confined to constitutional agitation for the removal of specific grievances and for improvements in conditions of service. The remarks made under the headings of the two Federations of Postal Unions above therefore apply generally to the activities of the individual affiliated members as well. As already stated in the earlier paragraphs of this article, there has been a considerable fall in the membership of the two North-Western Railway Unions at Sukkur and Karachi. The membership of the Sukkur Union fell from 2000 to 300 and that of the Karachi Union from 3000 to 1000. The Secretary of the Sukkur Union reports that it is feared that his Union will soon be defunct unless its members show greater interest in its activities. The Secretary of the Karachi Union states that the members of his Union are not inclined to have a separate organisation of their own but prefer to be members of the Central Organisation of the North-Western Railway Union at Lahore.

The Military Accounts Association, Poona.—This Association, formed in 1920, is a Union of permanent Accountants and Clerks of the Military Accounts Department including those honourably retired or deputed to other Departments irrespective of their religion, class or creed. The objects of the Association are the creation of a representative body to deal with matters relating to and not clashing with the common interests of its members which affect or are likely to affect the Subordinate Accounts Service and Clerical Establishment in general; to promote social intercourse and co-operation among its members; and, to take steps for the advancement of Departmental knowledge amongst its members. Gazetted officers of the Military Accounts Department are also entitled to be members of the Union. The Head Office of the Union is situated at Poona and it has 14 branch offices at Mhow, Allahabad, Meerut, Nowshera, Quetta, Jubbulpur, Risalpur, Karachi, Lahore (Wazir District), Aden, Bannu, Bombay, Jhelum and Multan.

The management of the Association vests in a Managing Board consisting of 12 members comprising one President, two Vice-Presidents, six members and three Secretaries. The working of the branch offices is controlled by local Working Committees comprised of one President, three Members and a Secretary. The functions of the local Working Committees are to enrol members, collect subscriptions and donations, distribute receipts for subscriptions paid as well as copies of publications supplied and to make monthly remittances to Head Quarters. The local Working Committees have the power to investigate the grievances of local members and to ventilate the same to Head Quarters for redress. They may, if they consider necessary, approach direct the authorities concerned,

for the redress of their grievances but copies of all such representations made are to be furnished to Headquarters.

The Association had an effective membership of about 1600 on the 1st June 1927 excluding the members of affiliated Associations but including the members of its various branches which are scattered all over the Indian Empire. The statements of accounts published with the annual report for the year 1926 show that including an amount of Rs. 2664-14-2 brought forward from the accounts of the previous year, total receipts amounted to Rs. 5301-5-6 of which an amount of Rs. 2407-6-0 was realised in subscriptions from members. The Union publishes an illustrated quarterly journal under the name of the *Military Accounts Association News*. This is circulated free of charge to all members of the Union. The expenses in connection with printing during the year amounted to Rs. 1129-4-0. After providing for other expenditure for administration the year closed with a balance of Rs. 3482-1-6 carried forward to the accounts of the current year.

It is now understood that there are several Unions and Associations of Government servants of the type of the Military Accounts Association at Poona. It is impossible for the Labour Office to know the existence of all these Associations unless the officials who control the activities of such Unions notify their existence and supply information regarding their activities to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence, Secretariat, Bombay. An endeavour will now be made to include as many of these Associations as possible in the next quarterly review to be published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1927.

Social Legislation in Cuba

Bills have recently been introduced by various members in the Cuban Parliament, dealing principally with the following subjects:

Workers' pensions, seamen's pensions, establishment of an arbitration court, the eight-hour day, pensions for employees in private commerce, pensions for journalists and the printing and allied trades, pension funds for salaried employees and manual workers in the sugar industry, and the obligation of employers to recognise the legal personality of trade unions.

The object of these Bills is to carry out the wish expressed by General Machado, President of the Republic, in his message to Parliament urging the speedy establishment of labour legislation of such a kind as to satisfy the aspirations of the Cuban workers. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.*)

Report of the Indian Tariff Board

A Tariff Board was appointed by the Government of India on 10th June 1926 to enquire into the conditions of the Indian Cotton Textile Industry. The Board submitted its report to Government on 21st January 1927. The report was published by Government on 7th June 1927.

In the course of its investigations the Board had occasion to enquire into the conditions of labour in the cotton industry and in various parts of the report the labour problem has been discussed in some detail. It is proposed in this article briefly to summarise the discussion on the labour problem contained in the report.

LEVEL OF WAGES

It is pointed out that in regard to the wages paid to operatives, Bombay is at a marked disadvantage both in relation to Ahmedabad and other upcountry centres and that whilst Ahmedabad was able to reduce wages in 1923, the efforts of the Bombay Millowners' Association to do so in 1925, ended in failure. The only alternative to a reduction in wages is increased efficiency and it is in this direction that, in the opinion of the Board, the true line of advance lies. It is further pointed out that Bombay is gradually losing its advantages over the upcountry centres and as time goes on the upcountry labour supply while retaining its relative cheapness as compared with that of Bombay will undoubtedly closely approach if not equal the latter in efficiency. The figures collected by the Board regarding the fall in production owing to the reduction of the hours of labour from 12 to 10 show that while the Bombay Millowners' Association place this at 16 per cent. in the spinning department and about 11 to 12 per cent. in the weaving department the experience of some of the upcountry mills indicates that owing to increased labour efficiency and improved conditions such as the installation of humidifiers the drop in the production in the spinning department has been reduced to 10 per cent. while there has actually been an increased production in the weaving department.

The Board admit that improvement in the efficiency of Indian labour must be a slow and tedious process but they hold nonetheless that there are certain reforms which can be introduced at once in Bombay and which, it is essential, should be introduced if the industry is to hold its own.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN INDIAN STATES

Out of the 274 mills working in India 43 are situated in the Indian States. The Board state that their information in regard to labour legislation in Indian States is not complete, but that it can be stated with confidence that in none of them are any mills working double shifts. Baroda is the only State in which the hours of labour now exceed those in British territory. In that State they are at present 11 per day on an average, but a Bill on the lines of the Factory Act enforced in British India is under consideration as is also the case in Hyderabad. Mysore has already a Factory Act on British Indian lines. The Indore Factory Act is not as stringent as that enforced in British India, but the hours of labour in cotton mills in the Indore State were reduced to 60 per week in August 1926.

PERIODS OF REST

In the opinion of the Board a minor but very essential reform which should be immediately introduced in the Bombay mills is the fixation of a definite period of rest to enable the operatives to take their morning meal. The Board found during their inspection of mills several operatives taking food in the mill compounds an hour or two after the commencement of work. This, in their opinion, affects efficiency and they therefore opine that the commencement of work should be put back to 6-30 a.m., a period of rest of half an hour being granted from 9 to 9-30 a.m. or from 9-30 to 10 a.m. to permit of meals being taken. This reform has already been introduced in one of the Bombay mills and if the mills find combined action in this respect difficult, the difficulty might be overcome by an amendment to the Factory Act, though the Board are of opinion that it should be possible to secure the required object without legislation.

RECRUITMENT OF LABOUR

In the evidence submitted to the Board it was pointed out that the method of recruiting labour in Bombay mills was very unsatisfactory as it placed too much power in the hands of the jobber or the foreman who recruited not necessarily the most efficient man, but one willing to pay him the largest commission or in whom he was otherwise interested. The Millowners' Association while admitting that the present system furnished openings for corruption held that it was the only system possible in Bombay conditions. On the evidence submitted on this question the Board are of opinion that the present system is undoubtedly open to objection, that it places too much power in the hands of the jobber and that it is desirable that all labour should be engaged directly by the officer of the mill in charge of the department which requires it or by the responsible assistant.

FINES

The two textile labour organisations in Bombay presented the Board with lengthy lists of grievances. Most of these grievances, in the opinion of the Board, can be remedied to a large extent by closer supervision over jobbers. There is, however, one amongst them which in the opinion of the Board should be removed immediately and that is in respect of the recoveries which are made for spoiled cloth. It is the practice in many mills to compel the weaver to take over cloth spoiled by defective workmanship, the full value of such cloth being recovered from him and credited to the mill. The weaver has often to dispose of the cloth as best he can. The figures obtained from the Millowners' Association on this point by the Board show that in August 1925 the total amount collected in this way by all mills was Rs. 8709-8-7. In one upcountry mill which the Board visited it was found that the recoveries for spoiled cloth amounted in one month to over Rs. 4000. This practice is justified by managing agents on the ground that disciplinary measures are necessary to maintain efficiency and quality. The system is not, however, universal. In some mills only the fine for defective workmanship is imposed, and in the opinion of the Board, the system of compelling the weaver to take the spoiled cloth should be abolished as the advantage which the mills derive

from it is entirely incommensurate with the soreness it causes. As regards the system of fining generally, since the question is under the consideration of the Government of India the Board do not pronounce any opinion on it, but say that any fines levied should not be credited to the mill but should be used in some way for the benefit of the operatives as a body.

STANDARDISATION OF WAGES

The Board consider it unsatisfactory that the wages in the Bombay mills should vary from mill to mill. They appreciate the difficulties in the way of standardising wages, but think that the standardisation of wages throughout Bombay would tend to strengthen the position of the industry. They recommend that a suitable scheme should be drawn up in consultation with representatives of labour and that it should be adopted by all mills.

HOUSING

The Board discuss at some length the housing scheme of the Development Department. They consider that the reason for the larger percentage (69) of the empty tenements is the high level of rents hitherto charged for them.

The Millowners' Association hold that since so many of the tenements are empty the scheme must be regarded as a failure and that there is therefore no justification for the continuance of the town duty of Re. 1 per bale of cotton which was levied with the object of enabling the Government to construct 50,000 tenements for the working classes in Bombay. The Board do not accept this view. They say that the tenements are there and are much superior to the already existing tenements and compare favourably with the latter even from the point of view of rent. The Board think, however, that since more than one half of the realisations from the tax are utilised for Bombay municipal schemes and suburban development schemes, the town duty should be reduced to 8 annas per bale on all cotton consumed by the mills.

ABSENTEEISM

The Board discuss at length the figures of absenteeism supplied to them by the Bombay Labour Office and state that it is not easy to suggest any method by which the percentage of absenteeism can be reduced. They point out, however, that they were informed that the grant of attendance bonuses had been tried and a few mills still give them but that they had had little or no effect in reducing the number of absentees. One method adopted in a mill in Bombay, though not a cotton mill, is for the management to examine each case of absenteeism and when it is found that the operative's absence has not been due to sickness or to domestic reasons to refuse him employment for a few days. The mill which has followed this system has reduced its absenteeism from 15 to 1 per cent. and has thus been able to dispense with the " budli " system. The Board are of opinion that the effect of absenteeism can best be minimised by the general adoption of a system which is already in force in a few mills in Bombay. Under this system a certain number of spare hands are entertained in each department except the weaving department. The spare men are borne on the pay roll and receive their wages even if the full

complement of workers in their departments is present. The general adoption of this method is considered most desirable by the Board who think that it would facilitate the grant of leave to operatives on a regular system such as the one to be found in force in a mill in Madras.

SUGGESTIONS FOR OBTAINING INCREASED OUTPUT PER OPERATIVE

The Board are of opinion that an extension of the piecework system to spinners would increase the efficiency of the Bombay mill industry and that this should be accompanied by an increase in the number of spindles allotted to each spinner. The Board found that Bombay was the only centre in the Bombay Presidency where there were no spinners on piecework.

It is pointed out that in Japan the number of spindles looked after by each operative is 240 whereas in India it is only 180. In England it is 540 to 600 and in the United States it is 1120. In all these countries, with the exception of India, the labour employed in spinning is almost exclusively female whereas in India it is mostly male. An examination of the costs of production by the Board shows that the average number of operatives per 1000 spindles in Bombay is considerably higher than in Ahmedabad and that Ahmedabad has really a clear advantage in this respect even allowing for the higher counts spun in the latter. The Bombay Millowners' Association hold that owing to the inefficiency of Indian labour nothing can be done to increase the number of spindles per operative. But the Board state :—" All that can be said, in reply to this contention, is that we actually found an experiment on the lines we here suggest in progress in a mill in Madras, where three operatives instead of four are now looking after 720 spindles, that is 240 each. Of the wages of the operative who has been dispensed with, four-fifths go to the three operatives and one-fifth to the mill and we were informed that the operatives were quite satisfied with the arrangement. In view of the higher wages ruling in Bombay, this ratio would not necessarily be suitable for that centre. A change in this direction would, obviously, be greatly facilitated by the introduction of the piecework system in the spinning department."

The Board are specially struck by the disparity between the wages of spinners and weavers in the cotton mill industry. The Labour Office enquiry of 1923 showed that the average daily wages in the ring spinning department in Bombay were Rs. 1-0-4 whereas those of the weavers in charge of two looms were Rs. 1-11-3. Such a difference between the wages of spinners and weavers is entirely contrary to the practice ruling in other countries where the wages of spinners and weavers are practically the same. The Board say " Considered in the light of world conditions in this respect, it would seem that either the wages of the Indian spinner are too low or those of the weaver too high, or else that the efficiency of the Indian spinner is low as compared with that of the Indian weaver. This disparity in the wages of weavers and spinners is a matter which, in our view, deserves the consideration of the industry. The reform we have suggested, the introduction of the piecework system in the spinning department, coupled with an increase in the number of spindles allotted to each spinner, would assist in rectifying it."

The number of looms worked by one weaver in India is usually two though in some upcountry centres, notably in Madras, it is only one. In Japan it averages 2½, in the United Kingdom it is usually 4 to 6 and in the United States 9. However both in Bombay and other centres there are weavers who look after 3 and 4 looms. The Board think that an increase in the number would obviously tend to economy and give increased earnings to the weaver even when accompanied by a slight reduction in the rate. Similar economies are also possible in the preparatory departments.

The Board are of opinion that efforts to improve the efficiency of the operatives will be greatly hampered if there is no corresponding improvement in the standard of efficiency of the jobber who supervises their work. The wages paid to jobbers are such that a higher level of technical knowledge than they possess can reasonably be expected from them, and the remedy therefore lies in the provision of greater facilities for technical education.

Employment of Women and Young Persons in France

NEW LEGISLATION

A Bill relating to the prohibition of the employment of women and young persons in certain occupations, which was passed by the French Chamber of Deputies on 20th November 1913, and transmitted to the Senate on 27th November of the same year, was passed by that body on 3rd November 1926, and became law on 7th December 1926.

The object of the Act is to extend the application of Section 72 of Book II of the French Labour Code, which reads as follows :—

> In all the establishments enumerated in Section 1 and Section 65, the occupations involving risks to health or morals which are prohibited for women and persons under 18 years of age shall be determined by Public Administrative Regulations.

Section I mentions factories, workshops, workyards, mines and quarries. Section 65 mentions laboratories, kitchens, cellars, stores, shops, offices, loading enterprises, and places of amusement.

A number of establishments, such as inns, hotels and hospitals, employment in which might present physical or moral risks to women and children under 18 remained outside the scope of these provisions, and called for further legislation.

The above mentioned Bill was accordingly introduced into the Chamber of Deputies on 4th November 1913 for the purpose of extending the scope of Section 72 by applying it also to the establishments enumerated in Section 30, which refers to persons entitled to a weekly rest.

The effect of this amendment is considerable, inasmuch as Section 30 applies to " workers and salaried employees in an Industrial or commercial establishment of any kind," and the Government is thus enabled to prohibit, by means of Public Administrative Regulations, the employment of women and children under 18 in any work whatever which involves physical or moral danger. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.*)

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 5, MAY 1927. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Place of Sickness Insurance in the National Health System, by Professor G. Loriga, (Chief Medical Inspector of Labour, Rome.).* pp. 651-668.

(2) *Minimum Wages and the International Labour Conference.*—Field of application ; types of machinery ; bases for fixing minimum wages ; summary. pp. 669-680.

(3) *The Administration of Labour Law in Germany, by Hugo Siefart, (formerly Director in the Federal Ministry of Labour).*—The sources and content of labour laws ; the enforcement of labour laws : (1) administrative authorities and courts ; criminal law and procedure (2) courts with jurisdiction in labour matters : (*a*) ordinary courts of justice (*b*) special courts with jurisdiction in labour matters. pp. 681—708.

(4) *Credit Co-operation as adapted to the Needs of the Worker, by Roy F. Bergengren, (Executive Secretary, Credit Union National Extension Bureau, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.)*—Credit ; the need for short-term credit ; usury and legitimate rates ; the remedial loan societies ; the uniform small loan law ; co-operative credit ; the credit union : historical significance, functions, credit union progress, relation to other co-operative enterprises ; summary ; conclusion. pp. 709-740.

(5) *Native Labour in Southern Rhodesia.*—Indigenous natives : administration of reserves, mission stations and education ; health ; kaffir farming ; beer drinking ; famine relief ; problems of employment ; alien natives ; general : punishments, pass laws, management ; conclusions. pp. 741-746.

(6) *Agricultural "wage movements" and Strikes in Germany.*—pp. 746-749.

(7) *The Housing of Agricultural workers in Germany.*—pp. 750-752.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 101, MAY 1927. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Rest-Pause Difficulties.*—General summary of the report. pp. 143-145.

(2) *A New Work on Pension Funds.*—pp. 146-148.

(3) *Welfare and the Office Girl.*—pp. 148-150.

(4) *What Employees Expect in the Works and Staff Magazine, by Thomas Dunkrelcy (Editor of the "Maypole Mirror" Maypole Dairy Company, Limited.)* pp. 150-153.

(5) *Accident Prevention : Preventing Eye Accidents.*—Accidents which need not occur : use a brush, ware belt fasteners, replace all guards, push don't pull, dangerous interference, wound disinfection, belting hazards. pp. 153-157.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 4, APRIL 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles : (1) *Report of Board in Dispute between Various Shipping Interests of the Port of St. John and their Checkers and Coopers.*—Report of board ; exhibit A ; exhibit B ; exhibit C. pp. 359—365.

(2) *Canadian Railway Board of Adjustment No. 1.*—Case No. 283 : Canadian National Railways (Atlantic Region) and Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees ; case No. 284 : Canadian National Railways (Atlantic Region) and Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees ; case No. 286 : Canadian Pacific Railway Company (western lines) and the Order of Railway Conductors and Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen ; case No. 287 : Canadian National Railways (Central region) and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen ; case No. 288 : Canadian National Railways (western region) and Order of Railroad Telegraphers ; case No. 289 : Canadian Pacific Railway Company (western lines) and Order of Railroad Telegraphers. pp. 365-366.

(3) *Labour Courts in Germany.*—page 367.

(4) *Strikes and Lockouts in Great Britain and Other Countries.*—Great Britain and Northern Ireland ; United States ; Belgium ; Finland ; France ; Germany ; Latvia ; Netherlands ; Australia ; New Zealand. pp. 370-372.

(5) *Bituminous Coal Miners' Dispute in the United States.*—page 373.

(6) *Old Age Pensions in Canada : Text of Act passed by Dominion Parliament.*—An act respecting old age pensions ; pp. 374-377.

(7) *Parliament of Canada Provides for Union Label Registration.*—An Act to Amend the Trade Mark and Design Act. pp. 378-381.

(8) *Labour Legislation in British Columbia and Saskatchewan.*—British Columbia ; Saskatchewan. pp. 382-384.

(9) *Report of Alberta Commission on Forty-Eight Hour Week.*—Majority report ; minority report. pp. 385-392.

(10) *Workmen's Compensation Legislation of the United States and Canada.* pp. 395-396.

(11) *Workmen's Compensation in Ontario : Rates of Assessment of Various Industries for Workmen's Compensation in Ontario in 1927.* pp. 396-397.

(12) *United States Enacts Compensation Law for Longshoremen.* pp. 397-398.

(13) *Oriental Population in British Columbia.*—Oriental Land-holders ; orientals in Industry ; oriental traders ; orientals in Schools ; fishing industry pp. 399-400.

(14) *Trade Union Membership in Canada : Summary of the Contents of the Sixteenth Annual Departmental Report on Labour Organization.*—Trade union membership by provinces; labour organization abroad ; industrial workers of the world ; injunctions in industrial disputes ; labour banks , labour in politics ; trade union benefits ; non-trade union organizations ; pp. 401-405.

(16) *All-Canadian Congress of Labour : An Organization of Unions not Included in the Membership of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.* pp. 406—407.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 3, MARCH 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Flatfoot and the Extension Boot Heel, by Harold R. Conn, M.D., F.A.C.S., (Akron, Ohio).* pp. 77-84.

(2) *The use of a Stock Vaccine in the Preventive Treatment of Colds : A Report of 125 Cases, by S. J. Repplier, M.D., and W. G. Leaman, Jr. M.D. (From the Medical Division of the Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia, Pa.).* pp. 85-87.

(3) *Metal Fume Fever : I. Clinical Observations on the Effect of the Experimental Inhalation of Zinc Oxide by two Apparently Normal Persons, by Cyrus C. Sturgis, B.S., M.D., Philip Drinker, B.S., Ch. E. ; and Robert M. Thomson. (From the Medical Clinic of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, Mass., and the Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.).*—Clinical histories of subjects ; method of inhalation ; clinical symptoms ; leukocyte count ; vital capacity of the lungs ; roentgen ray examination of the lungs ; observations on the urine ; clinical interpretation of data ; summary. pp. 88-97.

(4) *Metal Fume Fever : II. Resistance Acquired by Inhalation of Zinc Oxide on two Successive Days, by Philip Drinker, Robert M. Thomson and Jane L. Finn. (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.).*—Discussion ; summary. pp. 98-105.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 5, MAY 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles : (1) *Acute Respiratory Infections Among Motormen and Conductors, by H. S. Diehl., M.A., M.D., Marie Connelly, M.A., and D. D. Turnacliff, B.S., M.D., (From the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, Medical School, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.)*—Individuals losing time from colds ; time lost from colds ; incidence of other acute contagious diseases ; intensive study of an epidemic of influenza ; comment ; summary. pp. 169-175.

(2) *The Cardiac Patient in Industry : Chicago Heart Association Plans Constructive Program : Data from Thirty-Four Industries, by H. E. Mock, M.D. (St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, Ill.) and Susa P. Moore (Chicago, Ill.).*—Association sponsors certified workers ; health depends on work adjustment ; chance, not science, controls ; rheumatism a working class disease ; conclusions. pp. 176-186.

(3) *Metal Fume Fever : III. The Effects of Inhaling Magnesium Oxide Fume, by Philip Drinker, Robert M. Thomson and Jane L. Finn, (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard school of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)*—Magnesium Oxide Experiments ; discussion ; summary. pp. 187-192.

(4) *Basophilic Material in Benzol Poisoning : A Preliminary Report, by Wm. D. Paul, Alfred Friedlander, M.D. and Carey P. McCord, M.D., (From the Industrial Health Conservancy Laboratories and the Departments of Preventive and of Internal Medicine of the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.)*—Methods of establishing presence of basophilic material : Enumeration of red cells containing basophilic material, basophilic aggregation test, Wright's stain for polychromatophilic cells ; experiments with animals : group 1. rabbits, group 2. cats, group 3, Guinea-pigs, relation between high basophillic red cell counts and regeneration of red blood cells ; clinical studies : experience 1, experience 2, experience 3, experience 4 ; comment. pp. 193-207.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

In the Industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in April resulted in an aggregate reduction of about £70,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 560,000 workpeople, and in an increase of about £4000 in those of nearly 27,000 workpeople. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1927.*)

* * * * * *

Employment during April, although declining somewhat at the time of the Easter holidays, showed a renewed improvement by the end of the month. The improvement over the month as a whole was most marked in shipbuilding, where, however, employment still remained very bad. There was a further seasonal improvement in the building and clothing industries, and the numbers unemployed also decreased in a marked degree in general engineering and in the construction and repair of motor vehicles, cycles, etc. On the other hand, there was a decline in coal mining, in steel manufacture, and in tinplate manufacture. In coal mining the numbers recorded as wholly unemployed showed a further decrease, but this was more than counterbalanced by the numbers temporarily stopped from the service of their employers. Employment was good in most branches of the clothing industry, in brick, tile and cement manufacture, and fairly good in the printing, publishing, and stationery industries. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1927.*)

* * * * * *

At 30th April the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 64 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. a month ago and 67 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 54, 55 and 58 respectively. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1927.*)

* * * * * *

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in April was 16. In addition, 20 disputes which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in April (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 10,200; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during April was about 79,000 working days. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1927.*)

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The French Chamber of Deputies, at its sitting of 8th April 1927, passed without discussion a Bill for the ratification of the *Convention concerning unemployment indemnity in case of loss or foundering of the Ship* (Genoa, 1920), which was introduced by the Government on 25th May 1925. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.*)

When the bill was passed making arbitration of labour disputes compulsory, the Norwegian employers called off the lock-out which has been in force against some 15,000 workers for over 12 weeks. Until the Arbitration Court has delivered its award, work will continue on the old conditions. As a protest against the Act, the trade unions have decided not to appoint a representative on the Arbitration Court, and to take no part in the negotiations before the Court. The fixing of wages, which is the chief point at issue in the present dispute, will thus be left wholly to the members of the Court appointed by the State.

According to the new Act, which will remain in force until 1st August 1929, whenever the Government considers that important public interests are endangered, and the intervention of the State Conciliator has failed to achieve agreement, it may, on the proposal of the Conciliator, issue a decree prohibiting any stoppage of work, and refer the point at issue to the decision of the Court. The Court award may be limited to such points in dispute as cannot be otherwise settled. Until the Court has declared its award, the old wages and working conditions must continue in operation. The Court consists of a president and four members, the trade union centre and the employers' association being entitled to nominate one each. The award of the Court (*i.e.*, the compulsory agreement) may not remain in force longer than two years. Should there be any considerable change in general conditions, a rise or fall in prices, or any substantial improvement or worsening in economic conditions in the trade in question, an appeal against the terms of the award may be lodged after the expiry of six months, and in such case the Court may fix new rates of wages. Simultaneous with the passing of this Arbitration Act there has also been a revision of the Labour Disputes Act. This Act contains clauses dealing with the composition and methods of working of the Industrial Courts, the conciliation procedure, and the procedure when voting on conciliation proposals in the organisations. It may safely be asserted that on the whole the collective responsibility of the organisations has been extended and the Industrial Court has been so constituted as to bear a great resemblance to an ordinary court of justice. For so-called " illegal " stoppages of work, that is, for non-observance of the award issued by the Court, fines may be imposed ranging from 5 to 25,000 Kr., or imprisonment up to three months. Both laws are to come into force immediately with respect to both employers and workers, that is, for both strikes and lock-outs.

This is not the first time the Norwegian Parliament has passed legislation of this kind. In 1922, even the labour members of the Norwegian Parliament and the Social Democrates voted in favour of the prolongation for one year of the Act making arbitration compulsory. In 1923, the Government moved another extension of the Act, but the motion was thrown out through the combined votes of the Labour Party and the Conservatives. Since then there have been an extraordinarily large number of labour conflicts in Norway, many of them very long and involving large numbers of workers, and this year's conflict threatens to be of the same kind. At the proposal of the hard-pressed employers the Government and Parliament decided to reintroduce compulsory arbitration. (*From " Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, No. 19, May 19, 1927.*)

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay ..	1. The Central Labour Board.	1. G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. 2. B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union. 3. Port Trust Workshop Union. 4. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 5. The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union. (a)	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad. *Vice-President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla.
	2. The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.	1. Bombay Postal Union. 2. Ahmedabad Postal and R.M.S. Union. 3. Poona Postal Union. 4. Poona R. M. S. B-Division Union. 5. Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 6. Belgaum Postal Union. 7. Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 8. Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union. 9. Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union. 10. Ratnagiri Postal Union. 11. Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union. 12. Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union. 13. Baroda Postal Union. 14. Baroda R. M. S. Union. 15. Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 16. Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	*President*—Professor V G. Kale (Poona). *General Treasurer*—G. K. Rahalkar (P. O. clerk). *Honorary Secretary*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B. (advocate). *General Secretary*—D. S. Joshi (P. O. clerk). *Joint Secretary*—L. N. Tapaswi. *Assistant Secretary*—V. G. Kulkarni, B.A. (P. O. clerk).
	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	1. The Bombay Postmen's Union. 2. Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 3. Broach District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 4. Belgaum District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	*President*—Jamnadas Madhawji Mehta, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*—(1) V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. (2) H. D. Thakur, B.A., LL.B. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji, B. A., LL.B., Solicitor.

(a) The name of the Union has been changed since January 1926.

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay—contd. ..	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union —*contd.*	5. Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 6. Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 7. Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 8. Kanara District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 9. Satara Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 10. Konkan Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. G. Warty, M.A. *Assistant Secretaries*— (1) Dhondu Keshav Tendulkar. (2) Narayan Keshav Indap.
	4. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	1. The Wadi Bundar Staff Union. 2. The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union.	(*Not yet appointed.*)
Ahmedabad ..	5. Ahmedabad Labour Union.	1. The Weavers' Union. 2. The Winders' Union. 3 The Throstle Union. 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. 5. The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union. 6. The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	*President*—Miss Anusuya Sarabhai. *Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union—January 1926.	7,425	*President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*— 1. R. S. Asavale. 2. F. J. Ginwalla. 3. S. A. Brelvi. 4. S. H. Jhabwalla. *Treasurers*— 1. S. K. Bole. 2. Moulvi Abur Rauf Khan Saheb.	*General Secretary*—R. R. Bakhale, Servants of India Society, Sandhurst Road, Bombay. *Organising Secretary*—Syed Munawar.
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.—1897.	*2,246	*President*—C. W.A. Gidney, Bhusawal. *Vice-President*—R. Freeman, Igatpuri. *Treasurer*—C. R. Ray, Kalyan.	*General Secretary*—E. Woodfall, 275-277. Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union—April 1921.	15,436	*President*—(not yet appointed). *Departmental Vice-Presidents*— (1) *Saloon Department*—Antonio Ferrao. (2) *Engine Department*—Yeat Mahomed. (3) *Deck Department*—Yakub Hassan. *Treasurer*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A.	*General Secretary*—Syed Munawar, B.A., M.L.C. *Departmental Secretaries*— 1. *Saloon crew*—S. A. Rebello. 2. *Engine crew*—Abdul Karim. 3. *Deck crew*—Mahomed Ibrahim.
	4	The B. B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Union—July 1920.	1,940	*President*—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. *Vice-Presidents*— (1) F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. (2) B. G. Horniman. *Treasurer*— C. Bhukandas, Chargeman, B. B. & C. I. Railway Workshop, Parel.	*Secretaries*—(1) S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. (2) F. J. Patel, Bar.-at-Law, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Joint Secretaries*— (1) C. Bhukandas. (2) B. D. Mistry B.A., LL.B., Pleader, High Court. *Assistants*— 1. M. Bhagwandas. 2. J. Jhaivalla, DeLisle Road, Bombay.

* As at 1st March 1927.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union—May 1919.	2,900	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice-President*—B. G. Horniman. *Legal Adviser*—B. D. Mistry, B.A., LL.B.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road, Bombay. *Assistant Secretary*—V. P. Rele, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	6	The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union—March 1920.	689	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice-President*—W. H. Patil. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji. *Joint Treasurer*—Vishnu Mahadse.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Bridge, Mazagon. *Assistant Secretary*—Sadanand Waman Gadker, 2nd Carpenter Street, Mazagon.
	7	The Clerks' Union—April 1918.	926	*President*—A. R. V. Ranjit, Peerbhoy Mansion, Sandhurst Road. *Vice-President*—Samuel Judah, c/o Messrs. Graham and Co., Parsee Bazaar Gate Street, Fort, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Mr. Subharao, c/o Messrs. Mather Platt and Co.	*Joint Secretaries*—1. A. Krishnarao, c/o Laad, Solicitor, Bombay. 2. S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpokli Mandal)—December 1923.	182	*President*—D. A. Bhatawadekar, Hejib's Chawl, Junction of DeLisle and Arthur Roads, Chinchpokli, Bombay. *Treasurer*—Shankar Dhaku Kusgaonkar.	*Secretary*—V. G. Sadvelkar.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City —contd.	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union—January 1926 (This Union has taken over the Bombay members of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union founded in April 1918).	1,337	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Solicitor, M.L.C., Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice-Presidents*—(1) V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. (2) M. C Chhagla, Bar.-at-Law.	*Hon. Secretaries*—(1) K. R. Upadhye, Vakil. (2) K. S. Parulekar. *Assistant Secretary*—N. K. Indap.
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal)—August 1925.	1,009	*President*—Arjun Atmaram Alve. *Treasurer* — Bhiwa Tanu Alve.	*Secretary*—Dataram Ramchandra Mayekar, Nagoo Sayaji's Wadi, 30, Prabhadevi Road, Bombay.
	11	The Bombay Currency Association—17th March 1923.	216	*President*—R. M. Dongre.	*Secretaries*—1. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. 2. B. B. Acharya, 3. B. B. Shroff, Currency Office, Esplanade Road.
	12	Bombay Postal Union—1907 (Formerly known as the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club).	1,331		*Secretary*—D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay.
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal)—December 1925.	652	*President*—Shankar Kasiram Murkar. *Treasurer*—K. B. Aglave.	*Secretary*—S. J. Khamkar, near Ghorupdeo Temple, Bombay.
	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union*—July 1922.	276†	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Vice-President*—R. L. Surve, Umarkhadi Telegraph Office. *Treasurer*—Tukaram Sonu, Umarkhadi Telegraph Office.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43, Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.

* The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union since the 1st January 1926.

† As at 1st March 1927.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union*—February 1926.	599†	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. *Hon. Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut, 43, Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.
	16	The Seamen's Union—March 1926.	8,000	*President*—B. L. Pereira (temporary).	*Secretary*—A. P. DeSa 35, Haroon Building, Chira Bazar.
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employees' Union—April 1926.	41	*President*—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. *Vice-Presidents*—F. J. Ginwalla and Kanji Dwarkadas. *Treasurer*—E. M. Bahadurji.	*Hon. Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—W. S. Shitut.
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union—1920.	512	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-President*—O. E. Godfrey. *Treasurer*—G. K. Shet.	*Hon. General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Hon. Secretary*—B. K. Parab, Yusaf Building, Nawab Tank Bridge, Mazagon. *Assistant Secretary* B. G. Deshpande.
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union—1926.	1,073	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-Presidents*—(1) N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. (2) C. C. DeSa. (3) C. S. Mandivikar. *Honorary Treasurer*—M. D. Parkar.	*Honorary General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Honorary Secretary*—P. P. Carvalho, Assistant Shed Superintendent, Port Trust Docks.
	20	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union—1926.	343	*President*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate.	*Secretary*—P. S. Bakhale.
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union—1926.	133	Do.	Do.

* The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Government Peons' and Menials' Union to Government Peons' and Menials' Union,

† As at 1st March 1927.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—concld.	22	The Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union—March 1927.	1,200	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla. *Vice-President*—Rajaram Bin Rajaram. *Treasurer*—P. B. Datar.	*General Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla. *Assistant Secretary*—P. B. Datar, Room No. 5, Improvement Trust Chawl No. 1, Foras Road.
	23	The Jari Workers' (Gold thread workers') Union—March 1927.	175	*President*—S. H. Jhabwalla.	*Secretary*—Azizuddin Khan, Improvement Trust Chawl, Bhendi Bazar.
	24	The Municipal Subordinate Officials' Union—April 1927.	500	*President*—(not yet appointed).	*Secretary*—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate.
	25	The Bombay Tramwaymen's Union—April 1927.	75	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla.	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Room No. 5, Improvement Trust Chawl No. 1, Foras Road.
	26	The British India Steam Navigation Coy.'s Staff Union—May 1927.	295	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Pheroze Building, Frere Road, Bombay.
	27	The G. I. P. Railway General Staff Union—May 1927.	250	*President*—F. J. Ginwalla (Provisional).	*Secretary*—S. H. Jhabwalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road, Parel.
	28	The Kasbi Karegars' Union—April 1927.	1,200	*President*—S. H. Jhabwalla.	*Secretary*—Syed Ahmad Hussain, Ibrahim Building, 2nd floor, opp. J. J. Hospital, Byculla.
	29	The Press Workers' Union—March 1927.	..	*President*—A. V. Chitre, Sahakari Press, Parel Road, Parel Settlement.	*Secretary*—K. N. Joglekar, 168 Fanaswadi, Girgaum.
	30	The Shop Assistants' Union—May 1927.	150	*President*—S. H. Jhabwalla.	*Secretary*—V. Marfatia, Aspar's House, 7, Khetwadi, Bombay.
		Total Members, Bombay City.	51,111		

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad ..	31	The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	625	*President*—Miss Anusuya Sarabhai Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Mirzapur Road, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary*—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Solicitor Girdhurlal's House, Mandvini Pole, Ahmedabad.
	32	The Winders' Union—June 1920.	160	Do. ..	Do.
	33	The Throstle Union—February 1920.	6,530	Do. ..	Do.
	34	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	3,130	Do. ..	Do.
	35	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	200	Do. ..	Do.
	36	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union—(March 1926).	180	Do. ..	Do.
	37	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920.	6,927	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Haja Patel's Pole, Kalupur, Ahmedabad.
	38	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M.S. Union—1923.	180	*President*—N. M. Desai, B.A., LL.B., Raipur.	*Secretary*—D. S. Patel, Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Richey Road, Ahmedabad.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad —contd.	39	Gujarat Postmen's Union —August 1926.	96	*President*—V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	*Secretary*—M. V. Kothari, Haja Patel's Pole, Kalupur, Ahmedabad. *Assistant Secretary and Treasurer*—Ganesh Arjun Patel, Ragunath Bum's Pole, Sankdi Sheri, Ahmedabad.
		Total Members, Ahmedabad ..	18,028		
Sukkur ..	40	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920.	300	*President*—Radha Kishan A. Mathrani.	*Divisional Secretary*—J. Bukhari. *Assistant Secretary*—Sinister.
Karachi ..	41	N. W. Railway (Recognised) Union (Karachi District)—1920.	1,000	*Divisional President*—Radhakishan A. Mathrani, Sub-Inspector of Works, N. W. Railway, Reti.	*Honorary Divisional Secretary*—Dayaram, Clerk, Divisional Superintendent's Office Commercial, Karachi, N. W. R. *Divisional Secretary*—J. Bukhari.
Poona ..	42	The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	110	*President*—John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	*Secretaries*— 1. G. T. Sakpal, Yeravda Prison Press, Poona. 2. N. B. Purohit, Gourishankar Press, Poona City. 3. Krishnaji Shridhar Bande, Aryabhushan Press, Poona City, 4. D. S. Raihagkar, Govardhan Press, Poona City.
	43	The Military Accounts Association—January 1920.	1,600	*President*—G. B. Joshi. *Vice-Presidents*— (1) B. V. Tulpule. (2) J. G. Oak.	*Secretaries*— (1) G. S. Kulkarni, (2) N. V. Gokhlay, 351. Shukruwar Peth, Poona. (3) H. P. Makasare. (4) K. S. Karandikar.
	44	Poona Postal Union—1919.	325	*President*—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, "Kesari."	*Secretary*—N. V. Bhonde, Poona.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Poona—contd. ..	45	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union—1926.	224	*President*—N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor "Kesari."	*Honorary General Secretary*—R. M. Karlekar. *Joint General Secretary*—G. K. Joshi.
	46	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1920.	339	*President*—G. K. Gadgil, Bar.-at-Law, Poona. *Vice-President*—D. V. Ambekar. *Honorary Treasurer*—B. G. Mohite.	*Honorary Secretaries* (1) S. S. More, Vakil. (2) H. V. Jadhav. *Assistant Secretary*—V. R. Sinde.
Broach ..	47	Broach District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	22	*President*—H. D. Thakore, Vakil. *Vice-President*—R. C. Seth, Vakil.	*Secretary*—K. J. Mishra.
Ahmednagar ..	48	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	399	 *	*Secretary*—Chabukswar, Ahmednagar.
Belgaum ..	49	Belgaum Postal Union—1920.	112	 *	*Secretary*—G. V. Limaye, Belgaum.
	50	Belgaum District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	84	*President*—B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C.	*Secretary*—R. S. Kadam.
Dharwar ..	51	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	174	*President*—V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	*Secretary*—R. M. Betgiri, Dharwar.
Jalgaon ..	52	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	111	*President*—H. V. Kolhatkar.	*Secretary*—H. V. Modak.
Nasik ..	53	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	237	*President*—Rao Saheb Gogate.	*Secretary*—R. T. Lele, Nasik.
	54	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	65	*President*—A. B. Kachavle.	*Secretary*—B. K. Panse.
Ratnagiri ..	55	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	256	 *	*Secretary*—A. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
	56	Konkan Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	23	*President*—Dr. R. K. Gawande, Malwan.	*Secretary*—V. S. Kulkarni, Pendur (Malwan).

* Information not received.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Satara ..	57	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union —1919.	135	*President*—R. V. Deshpande.	*Secretary*—T. K. Datye, Satara.
Surat .	58	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union —1921.	186		*Secretary*—B. N. Mistry, Surat.
	59	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	105	*President*—V. C. Jadhav, B.A. *Vice-President*—K. M. Desai.	*Honorary Secretary* (1)—S. V. Vohora, Vakil. (2)—A. M. More. *Assistant Secretary*—N. R. More.
Baroda ..	60	Baroda Postal Union—1920.	155	*President*—C. M. Doctor.	*Secretary*—R. J. Shah, Baroda.
	61	Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924	257	*President*—Kalekar.	
	62	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	50	*President*—D. N. Chitre, Vakil.	*Secretary*—B. B. Palekar, Editor, "Jagriti." *Assistant Secretary*—S. K. Fadnis.
Bhavnagar ..	63	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	58		*Secretary*—T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
Rajkot ..	64	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	163		*Secretary*—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Karwar ..	65	Kanara District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	69	*President*—M. G. Chandawarkar, Vakil.	*Secretary*—S. S. Nagarkotti, Vakil.
Miraj ..	66	Satara Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union —1926.	149	*President*—Dr. N. V. Joshi.	*Secretary*—Ismail Saheb Salati, Miraj.
		Total Members, Rest of the Presidency ..	6,708		
		Total Members, Bombay Presidency ..	75,847		

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available.	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City ..	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union.	982	As. 4 per month ..	751
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,550	Rs. 1-8-0 per month for those earning over Rs. 100 ("A" class members); Re. 1 per month for those earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 ("B" class members); As. 12 per month for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 ("C" class members); As. 6 per month for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 ("D" class members); and As. 3 for those earning less than Rs. 25 ("E" class members).	2,300
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union.	2,009	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,908
	4	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union.	577	As. 2 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50. Entrance fees same as subscriptions.	382
	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.	956	Do. ..	396

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—contd.	6	The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union.	179	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	72
	7	The Clerks' Union	22	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal, Bombay (Chinchpokli Mandal).	*Nil*	Re. 1 per year ..	*Nil*
	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union.	545	As. 4 per month for postmen (overseers, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for packers (runners, local peons, boy messengers and packers).	470
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	241	As. 4 per month ..	276
	11	The Bombay Currency Association.	40	Rs. 3 for clerks and annas 8 for menials per year.	35
	12	Bombay Postal Union.	610	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	390
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	154	As. 4 per month ..	48

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—contd.	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.*	82	As. 4 per month ..	32
	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union.	145	Do. ..	38
	16	The Seamen's Union.	2,174	Rs. 3 per year ..	1,629
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employees' Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	*Nil*
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union.	84	As. 2 to As. 8 per month according to pay.	51
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	315	As. 8 per month for clerks and Superior Staff; As. 4 for adult menials and As. 2 for boy menials per month.	175
	20	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union.	75	Six annas and four annas per month according to pay.	30
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union.	30	As. 4 per month for clerical staff and As. 2 per month below clerical.	15

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City—concld.	22	The Bombay Municipal Workmen's Union.	225	Annas 2 per month for those earning below Rs. 20; as. 4 for those earning between Rs. 20 to Rs. 50; as. 6 for those earning above Rs. 50.	175
	23	The Jari Workers' (Gold thread workers') Union.	25	Rs. 2 per annum ..	10
	24	The Municipal Subordinate Officials' Union.	.	As. 8 per month ..	
	25	The Bombay Tramway men's Union.	..	Annas 2 per month for those earning below Rs. 20; as. 4 for those earning between Rs. 20 to Rs. 50; as. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	
	26	The British India Steam Navigation Coy.'s Staff Union.	..	Do. ..	
	27	The G I. P. Railway General Staff Union.	..	Do.	
	28	The Kasbi Karegars' Union.	200	Rs. 2 per annum..	60
	29	The Press Workers' Union.	..		
	30	The Shop Assistants' Union.	..	As. 4 per month for those earning under Rs. 25; as. 8 for those earning over Rs. 25.	
Ahmedabad ..	31	The Weavers' Union.	156	As. 4 per month ..	175
	32	The Winders' Union.	20	As. 2 per month ..	12

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ahmedabad—contd.	33	The Throstle Union.	1,383	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker per fortnight.	500
	34	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	783	As. 4 per month ..	226
	35	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union.	94	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fireman per month.	14
	36	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	90	As. 8 per jobber or mukadam per month.	
	37	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	986	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; and Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	683
	38	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	62	As. 8 per clerk, As. 2 below clerk per month.	81
	39	Gujarat Postmen's Union.	31	Rupee one per annum per postman, and annas eight per annum per packer.	7
Sukkur ..	40	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	40	Subscription at the rate of ½ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	50
Karachi ..	41	N. W. Railway Recognised Union (Karachi District).	150		125
Poona ..	42	The Press Workers' Union.	4	As. 12 per year .	About 2
	43	The Military Accounts Association.	267	Rs. 6 and 3 per year for subordinate accounts service and clerical establishments respectively.	237

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Poona—contd.	44	Poona Postal Union.	88	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	69
	45	Poona R. M. S. B—Division Union.	84	As. 8 per clerk, sorter or inspector; As. 2 per mailguard and one anna per peon or porter per month.	62
	46	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	41	As. 4 per month ..	29
Broach ..	47	Broach District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	6	Do. ..	3
Ahmednagar ..	48	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	51	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	12
Belgaum ..	49	Belgaum Postal Union.	32	Do. ..	8
	50	Belgaum District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	8
Dharwar ..	51	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	55	As 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	24
Jalgaon ..	52	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	67	Do. ..	19
Nasik ..	53	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	24	Do. ..	17
	54	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	4	As. 4 per month ..	1

TABLE III—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—concld.

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Ratnagiri ..	55	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	55	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	73
	56	Konkan Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	21		
Satara ..	57	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	..*	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	*
Surat ..	58	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	37	Do. ..	2
	59	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	36	As. 4 per month ..	14
Baroda ..	60	Baroda Postal Union.	251	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	32
	61	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	..	Do. ..	
	62	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	12	As. 4 per month ..	10
Bhavnagar ..	63	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	..*	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	*
Rajkot ..	64	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	1	Do. ..	2
Karwar ..	65	Kanara District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	14	As. 4 per month ..	7
Miraj ..	66	Satara Divisional Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	1	As. 4 per month ..	3

*Not reported.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MAY 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. The Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill, Barsi.	640	44	4 May		Demand for the same rates of wages as are paid in Sholapur Mills.	No settlement reported.
2. The Bhagirath Mill, Jalgaon.	328	120	9 May		Refusal to admit an operative to work after absence without leave.	No settlement reported.
3 The Gujarat Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Amudupura Road, Ahmedabad.	200		9 May	11 May	Demand for the same rates of wages as are paid in the Asoka Mills.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
4. The Rachel Sassoon Mill, Chinchpokli, Bombay.	1,000	855	11 May	13 May	Reduction in weavers' earnings due to less work.	The strike ended in a compromise.
5 The Raymond Woollen Mills, Ltd., Thana, Bombay.	147		14 May	23 May	Reduction in rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The Broach Fine Counts Mill, Broach.	145		21 May	26 May	In sympathy with a dismissed line Jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of April		
	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds (000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	6,236	6,897	6,028
Nos. 11 to 20	19,699	18,227	18,804
Nos. 21 to 30	13,636	15,307	15,879
Nos. 31 to 40	1,168	1,591	1,827
Above 40	404	734	972
Waste, etc.	10	81	92
Total ..	41,153	42,837	43,602

BOMBAY CITY

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	5,636	6,189	5,296
Nos. 11 to 20	13,432	12,362	12,679
Nos. 21 to 30	9,084	9,670	9,889
Nos. 31 to 40	612	713	757
Above 40	229	247	486
Waste, etc.	2	73	92
Total ..	28,995	29,254	29,199

AHMEDABAD

Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	182	175	194
Nos. 11 to 20	3,486	3,287	3,383
Nos. 21 to 30	3,552	4,234	4,715
Nos. 31 to 40	371	648	762
Above 40	128	357	340
Waste, etc.	..	..	..
Total ..	7,719	8,701	9,394

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of April		
	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	700	918	974
Chudders „ ..	1,147	1,194	1,216
Dhotis „ ..	6,997	6,969	7,367
Drills and jeans „ ..	1,235	1,193	1,351
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	37	19	28
Printers „ ..	367	228	208
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	8,866	10,231	10,017
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	1,106	948	1,627
Tent cloth „ ..	158	38	94
Other sorts „ ..	564	505	547
Total „ ..	21,177	22,243	23,429
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	7,781	9,009	10,214
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	279	311	192
Hosiery „ ..	17	25	28
Miscellaneous „ ..	119	290	285
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	54	124	318
Grand Total „ ..	29,427	32,002	34,466

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	547	816	843
Chudders „ ..	817	753	844
Dhotis „ ..	2,102	2,101	2,438
Drills and jeans „ ..	1,098	1,158	1,294
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	21	..	13
Printers „ ..	7	..	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	6,657	8,085	7,964
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	795	665	1,365
Tent cloth „ ..	125	27	86
Other sorts „ ..	248	266	309
Total „ ..	12,417	13,871	15,156
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	5,199	5,949	6,747
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	267	301	189
Hosiery „ ..	8	8	8
Miscellaneous „ ..	103	221	215
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	53	68	185
Grand Total „ ..	18,047	20,418	22,500

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—contd.

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of April		
	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	59	30	15
Chudders „ ..	248	379	259
Dhotis „ ..	3,585	4,000	3,939
Drills and jeans „ ..	65	34	29
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	10	18	13
Printers „ ..	193	117	115
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,641	1,617	1,576
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings „ ..	284	241	170
Tent cloth „ ..	29	3	1
Other sorts „ ..	225	139	157
Total „ ..	6,339	6,578	6,274
Coloured piece-goods „ ..	1,885	2,187	2,412
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods „ ..	1	1	2
Hosiery „ ..	10	17	20
Miscellaneous „ ..	17	69	68
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	..	56	130
Grand Total „ ..	8,252	8,908	8,906

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	May 1926	April 1927	May 1927	July 1914	May 1926	April 1927	May 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 10 8	6 3 1	6 6 10	100	142	132	137
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 11 9	7 12 3	7 12 9	100	156	139	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	72 8 0	82 8 0 (3)	82 8 0	100	161	183	183
Do.	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	55 8 0	55 8 0	55 8 0	100	139	139	139
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 10 6 (1)	4 7 1 (1)	4 5 5(1)	100	148	141	137
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 8 10	4 5 5	4 7 1	100	139	132	135
Bajri	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 4 8	4 10 6	4 10 6	100	161	142	142
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	149	144	145
Pulses—										
Gram	Puhjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	4 13 11	4 10 6	4 10 6	100	115	110	110
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	7 6 6	7 15 0	8 2 4	100	131	140	144
Index No.—Pulses ..							100	123	125	127
Index No.—Food grains ..							100	144	140	141
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0	16 14 0			100	184	..	..
Do.	Java, white ..	,,	10 3 0	17 0 0	16 5 0	16 0 0	100	167	160	157
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	9 4 0	8 7 0	8 7 0	100	117	107	107
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	156	134	132
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	8 9 2	8 13 6	8 4 9	100	154	159	149
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	77 2 3	74 4 7	85 11 5	100	169	163	186
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 0 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	136	128	128
Index No.—Other food ..							100	153	150	155
Index No.—All Food ..							100	148	141	143
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 6 0	10 15 0	11 3 0	100	116	123	126
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	12 1 0	11 6 0	11 6 0	100	151	142	142
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	14 2 0	16 8 0	17 4 0	100	130	152	159
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	17 0 0	17 4 0	17 4 0	100	151	153	153
Index No.—Oilseeds ..							100	137	143	145

Textiles—Cotton—											
(a) *Cotton, raw—*											
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	340 0 0	295 0 0	323 0 0	100	135	118	129	
Oomra	Do.	"	222 0 0	317 0 0(2)	2.0 0 0(2)	310 0 0(2)	100	143	126	140	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	348 0 0		341 0 0	100	151	..	148	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	281 0 0	272 0 0	299 0 0	100	137	133	146	
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	250 0 0	269 0 0	292 0 0	100	126	136	147	
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	138	128	142	
(b) *Cotton manufactures—*											
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 0 3	1 1 6	100	149	127	137	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	9 12 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	100	164	147	147	
White mulls*	6/600	"	4 3 0	9 12 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	233	215	215	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	20 0 0	18 8 0	17 14 0	100	193	178	172	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 6	0 14 9	0 15 0	100	184	155	158	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	0 15 9	0 13 6	0 13 6	100	166	142	142	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	182	161	162	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	162	148	153	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 7 3	6 4 0	6 6 2	100	125	121	124	
Do	Mathow Lan	"	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 7 0	4 11 3	100	160	151	160	
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	143	136	142	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 12 7	1 9 6	1 15 9	100	155	138	172	
Do Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 15 6	1 1 1	0 13 10	100	90	99	80	
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 11 10	2 6 1	2 6 2	100	219	190	191	
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	155	142	148	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	59 8 0	56 0 0	56 0 0	100	98	93	93	
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169	
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	129	129	129	
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	14 8 0	12 14 0	13 15 0	100	161	143	155	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	18 8 0	16 8 0	100	194	211	189	
Index No.—Metals							100	151	149	147	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	19 8 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	132	142	142	
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	19 5 0	22 6 9	24 15 8	100	98	114	127	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 6 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	169	175	175	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles					...		100	146	156	159	
Index No.—Food							100	148	141	143	
Index No.—Non-food							100	152	147	150	
General Index No.							100	151	145	148	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality. (2) Quotation for Oomra, Fine. (3) revised figure.

* In the absence of price quotations for the grade 6/600 the price quoted since June 1925 for white mulls is for the grade 6000.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	May 1926	Apr. 1927	May 1927	July 1914	May 1926	Apr. 1927	May 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—				(1)	(3)	(3)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	59 12 0	61 12 0	61 12 0	100	153	158	158
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red ..	,,	31 8 0	45 0 0	43 0 0	43 4 0	100	143	137	137
,, red .. .	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red ..	,,	31 4 0	44 0 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	141	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	46 6 0	44 6 0	44 6 0	100	143	137	137
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	45 6 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	141	127	127
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	43 8 0	38 0 0	38 8 0	100	171	149	151
Barley	3% dirt ..	,,	26 8 0		34 12 0	36 0 0	100	..	131	136
Index No.—Cereals ..	...		...			..	100	149	138	139
Pulses—					(2)	(2)				
Gram	1% dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0		35 8 0	36 12 0	100	..	120	125
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white ..	Cwt	9 2 0	16 8 0	15 10 0	15 5 0	100	181	171	168
,, .. .	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6	. ..	14 10 0	14 4 0	100	..	181	176
Index No —Sugar ..		.. .				..	100	181	176	172
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 10 6	1 11 6	100	78	78	81
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 10 0	3 13 0	4 2 0	100	134	141	153
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0		70 8 0	70 8 0	100	..	138	138
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture ..	,,	62 0 0		10[illegible] 0 0	97 0 0	100	..	165	156
Index No.—Oilseeds ..					...	..	100	134	148	149
Textiles—										
Jute bags ..	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	56 0 0	51 0 0	48 8 0	100	146	133	127

MO R 3—7

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	27 9 0	30 0 0	34 4 0	100	136	148	169
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	19 12 0	13 9 0	13 12 0	100	193	133	135
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	21 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	207	168	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..						..	100	200	151	152
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..						..	100	179	150	157
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	33 0 0	35 8 0	36 0 0	100	118	127	129
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	62	68	68
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	62	68	68
Index No.—Hides ..						..	100	62	68	68
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 8 0	57 8 0	57 0 0	100	100	95	94
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	6 6 0	6 2 0	6 12 0	100	165	158	174
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	5 14 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	134	160	160
Index No.—Metals ..				...		..	100	133	133	143
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	21 2 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	132	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 4 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	163	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles				..		..	100	159	165	165
Index No.—Food ..					. ..	..	100	144	138	138
Index No.—Non-food ..						.	100	138	137	140
General Index No. ..						..	100	140	138	139

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sukkur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manu-factures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manu-factured articles	Index No. non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
May ..	125	85	212	293	171	131	253	236	191	149	168	166	187	181
1925														
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148
March ..	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	163	134	137	156	161	149	148
April ..	144	125	134	150	141	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	145
May ..	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148	147	159	150	148

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 „	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117	119	103		105 (m)
1916 „	108	148	102	115	117	116		146	140	106		118
1917 „	118	180	130	116	128	146	...	190	180	114		142
1918 „	149	203	146	118	144	197		253	229	118		174
1919 „	186	208	155	132	157	205		(d) 275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 „	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	307	253	155	(p) 341	200
1921 „	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	294	209	133	(p) 307	174
1922 „	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	251	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 „	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	238	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 „	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	169	132	(p) 366	173
1925 „	157	173	146	(a) 153	(l) 163	598	509	259	169	133	(p) 390	178 (m)
„ December	155	177	154	156		649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January	155	175	155		...	665	527	232	167	131	. .	. .
„ February	154	173	154	...	162	661	526	230	165	131		. ..
„ March	155	172	154	156		654	521	225	. ..	131	451	
„ April	153	168	153		...	642	529	221	...	131		. ..
„ May	153	167	152		163	652	558	220	160	132		
„ June	155	168	150	161		650	579	218	162	131	485	175
„ July	157	170	150			649	637	220	162	130		
„ August	155	170	150	...	163	652	681	219	161	130		
„ September	155	172	149	158		657	684	217	161	130	539	
„ October	155	174	148		...	672	705	218	161	131		
„ November	154	179	150		163	657	730	217	161	131		
„ December	156	179	151	157	..	657	741	213	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152	..	...	655	755	210	160	130		
„ February	155	172	151		162	667	770	208	160	130		
„ March	155	171	150			663	771	203	159	131	524	. ..
„ April	153	165	148				774	201		...		
„ May	152	164			161	..	...		.	.		
„ June	154				...	...	...	...	...	...		...

(a) From 1914 to 1925 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 „ ..	100	96			106	(e) 100		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 „ ..		97			147	102		140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 „ ..		117			138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 „ ..		149			153	169		262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 „ ..	236	196			178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 „ ..	222	236			189	226		356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 „ ..	216	259	152		228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 „ ..	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 „ ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 „ ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 „ ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 „ ..	163	202	159	170	170	152	159	550	155	251	157	160	159
„ June ..	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
„ July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
„ August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
„ September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
„ October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
„ November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
„ December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
„ February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
„ March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
„ April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
„ May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
„ June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
„ July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
„ August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
„ September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
„ October ..	147	174	171	(b) 161	162	129	152	751	143	188	142	151	150
„ November ..	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	130	152	684	147	182	142	152	148
„ December ..	146	170	172	159	162	130	146	627	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January ..	146	170	173	159	162	126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
„ February ..	148	171	172	(b) 160	160	124	143	632	146		140	150	146
„ March ..	148	171	175	157		124	141	641	144		139	149	145
„ April ..	(b) 145			157		122	140						
„ May ..	148												

*July 1914=100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914=100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

†The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c)100	(d)..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 „	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 „	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 „	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 „	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 „	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 „	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 „	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 „	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923 „	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f)496	105	968	136	218	160	188	166
1924 „	151	162	134	117	149(c)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	200	170
1925 „	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	210	167
„ November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
„ December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	..	163
1926 January ..	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(j)175	216	162	177	167
„ February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
„ March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	..
„ April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	..
„ May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
„ June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052	..	194	157	..	159
„ July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	159	159
„ August	153	161	150	117	157	149	..	587	660	193	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
„ September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
„ October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091	..	191	157	..	160
„ November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
„ December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	208	1,081	..	184	157	..	159
1927 January ..	155	167	153	116	159	148	156	592	625	208	1,063	166	180	156	156	158
„ February..	152	164	151	117	153	146	153	585	642	212	1,064	..	177	153	..	157
„ March ..	152	162	149	118	151	146	151	581	635	205	1,055	..	173	151	..	156
„ April ..	151	155	146	..	151	145	..	580	..	.	..	..	169	151	..	..
„ May ..	150	154	..	..	..	145	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ June ..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN APRIL AND MAY 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay April 1927	Karachi April 1927	Ahmedabad April 1927	Sholapur April 1927	Poona April 1927	Bombay May 1927	Karachi May 1927	Ahmedabad May 1927	Sholapur May 1927	Poona May 1927
Cereals—		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rice	Maund	7 7 6 *134*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 0 4 *152*	7 11 1 *133*	7 6 3 *132*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	7 11 1 *133*
Wheat	,,	7 4 4 *130*	6 2 6 *146*	6 15 4 *148*	7 6 10 *144*	8 6 5 *156*	7 8 3 *134*	6 2 6 *146*	6 3 5 *132*	7 4 1 *141*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	,,	5 11 2 *131*	4 9 2 *126*	5 5 4 *140*	3 15 11 *139*	5 3 10 *153*	5 9 10 *129*	4 7 7 *123*	5 0 8 *132*	3 14 6 *136*	5 3 10 *153*
Bajri	,,	5 12 4 *134*	5 1 3 *121*	6 2 6 *131*	4 4 0 *121*	5 9 10 *137*	5 12 4 *134*	5 0 0 *119*	5 12 3 *122*	4 2 4 *118*	5 9 10 *137*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*132*	*128*	*137*	*139*	*145*	*132*	*127*	*129*	*139*	*143*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 10 11 *155*	6 0 7 *159*	5 0 0 *125*	5 10 2 *131*	6 0 1 *123*	6 9 7 *153*	5 15 8 *157*	5 0 0 *125*	5 10 2 *131*	5 15 0 *122*
Turdal	,,	8 10 7 *148*	10 0 0 *150*	8 14 3 *144*	8 10 0 *148*	11 13 8 *179*	8 15 10 *154*	9 6 7 *141*	8 14 3 *144*	8 7 1 *145*	11 13 8 *179*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*152*	*155*	*135*	*140*	*151*	*154*	*149*	*135*	*138*	*151*

Other articles of food—												
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	14 4 7 *187*	12 1 2 *166*	13 5 4 *167*	13 14 7 *139*	13 3 7 *141*	13 11 1 *180*	12 1 2 *166*	13 5 4 *167*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	
Jaggri (gul)	„	13 11 1 *160*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	8 3 3 *106*	7 10 6 *109*	13 1 6 *153*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	8 0 0 *103*	7 14 9 *113*	
Tea	Lb.	0 15 1 *193*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 7 *200*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	
Salt	Maund	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 12 0 *146*	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 9 11 *139*	
Beef	Seer	0 8 0 *155*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 5 *74*	0 3 6 *140*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 11 *82*	0 3 0 *121*	0 6 0 *141*	
Mutton	„	0 13 6 *202*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*	0 13 0 *195*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*	
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 *191*	7 9 11 *172*	10 0 0 *200*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	7 12 11 *176*	10 10 8 *213*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	
Ghee	„	97 0 5 *191*	71 1 9 *167*	71 1 9 *160*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	94 0 9 *185*	73 2 5 *171*	74 6 8 *167*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	
Potatoes	„	6 8 9 *146*	4 14 9 *91*	3 5 4 *88*	5 0 0 *125*	4 5 1 *128*	7 2 3 *159*	5 5 4 *98*	3 5 4 *88*	5 0 0 *125*	4 3 4 *125*	
Onions	„	4 12 2 *307*	3 1 3 *169*	4 7 1 *222*	3 1 3 *123*	2 11 6 *136*	3 9 2 *230*	3 7 8 *191*	3 5 4 *167*	3 1 3 *123*	2 10 1 *131*	
Cocoanut oil	„	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	
Index No.—Other articles of food		*182*	*160*	*156*	*139*	*139*	*174*	*163*	*154*	*136*	*138*	
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) : ..		*167*	*152*	*149*	*139*	*142*	*162*	*153*	*146*	*137*	*140*	

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
May	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
June	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, JULY, 1927 [No. 11

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

The Labour Office report on an enquiry into Middle Class Unemployment in the Bombay Presidency has been published. A summary of the report will be found on pages 1041 to 1046 of this issue.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of June 1927. The average absenteeism was 7·85 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·23 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0·86 per cent. for Viramgam, 13·74 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·08 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 14·59 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 10·97 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·26 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 5·90.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In July 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 156 as against 154 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 154.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 147 for the month of June 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were 6 industrial disputes in the month of June 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 578* and the number of working days lost 694.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During June 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities, against India amounted to Rs. 294 lakhs.

* See footnote on p. 989.

The Cost of Living Index for July 1927

A RISE OF TWO POINTS

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **56 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **54 per cent.**

In July 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay city was 2 points higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 154 in June and 156 in July 1927. The general index is thus 37 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point higher than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles recorded a rise of 3 points during the month. There was a rise of 2 points each in rice and wheat and of 9 points in jowari which led to an increase of 2 points in the cereals index. Pulses declined by 3 points owing to a fall of 4 points in gram. Among other food articles, raw sugar (gul) advanced by 7 points, salt by 4 points and cocoanut oil by 3 points. Beef was steady but mutton went up by 8 points. The average price of tea was lower by 4 points and that of ghee and potatoes was higher by 5 and 14 points respectively. The prices of the remaining articles were practically stationary during the month under review. The " other food " index was 181 as against 177 in the preceding month.

The " fuel and lighting " index remained stationary at 166. The index number for the clothing group rose by 2 points to 149 due to a rise in the price of chudders.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914.

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	53
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	52
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	54
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	56
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November .	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between June 16 and July 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JULY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·615	7·693	391·58	533·05	538·51
Wheat	"	21	5·594	7·354	7·432	117·47	154·43	156·07
Jowari	"	11	4·354	5·417	5·781	47·89	59·59	63·59
Bajri	"	6	4·313	5 771	5·771	25·88	34·63	34·63
Total—Cereals						582·82	781·70	792·80
Index Numbers—Cereals						*100*	*134*	*136*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	6·740	6·563	43·02	67·40	65·63
Turdal	"	3	5·844	8·974	8·974	17·53	26·92	26·92
Total—Pulses						60·55	94·32	92·55
Index Numbers—Pulses						*100*	*156*	*153*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	13·693	13·693	15·24	27·39	27·39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	8·557	13·094	13·693	59·90	91·66	95·85
Tea	"	½	40·000	79·057	77·776	1·00	1·98	1·94
Salt	"	5	2·130	3·313	3·412	10·65	16·57	17·06
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·537	0·537	9·04	15·04	15·04
Mutton	"	33	0·417	0·823	0·854	13·76	27·16	28·18
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	"	1½	50·792	97·026	99·406	76·19	145·54	149·11
Potatoes	"	11	4·479	7·141	7·740	49·27	78·55	85·14
Onions	"	3	1·552	3·573	3·573	4·66	10·72	10·72
Cocoanut Oil	"	½	25·396	27·974	28 573	12·70	13·99	14·29
Total—Other food articles						381·18	674·76	690·88
Index Numbers—Other food articles						*100*	*177*	*181*
Total—All food articles						1,024·55	1,550·78	1.576·23
Index Numbers—All food articles						*100*	*151*	*154*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61 49
Coal	"	1	0·542	0·771	0·771	0·54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60·44	100·54	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·859	0·906	16·04	23·19	24·46
Shirtings	"	25	0·641	0·969	0·969	16·03	24·23	24·23
T. Cloths	"	36	0·583	0·844	0·844	20·99	30·38	30·38
Total—Clothing						53·06	77·80	79·07
Index Numbers—Clothing						*100*	*147*	*149*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House rent						*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total						**1,251·07**	**1,923·52**	**1,950·24**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						**100**	**154**	**156**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in June and July 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

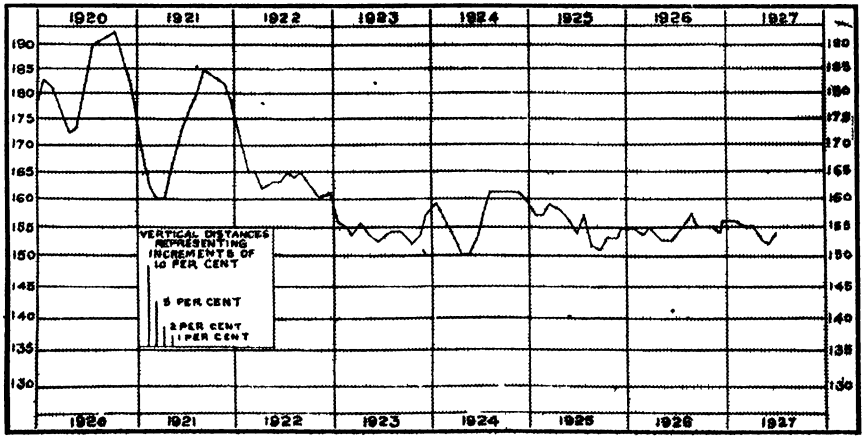
Articles	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in July 1927 over or below June 1927	Articles	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in July 1927 over or below June 1927
Rice ..	100	136	138	+ 2	Salt ..	100	156	160	+ 4
Wheat ..	100	131	133	+ 2	Beef ..	100	166	166	..
Jowari ..	100	124	133	+ 9	Mutton ..	100	197	205	+ 8
Bajri ..	100	134	134	..	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	157	153	— 4	Ghee ..	100	191	196	+ 5
Turdal ..	100	154	154	..	Potatoes ..	100	159	173	+14
Sugar (refined)	100	180	180	..	Onions ..	100	230	230	..
Raw sugar (gul)	100	153	160	+ 7	Cocoanut oil ..	100	110	113	+ 3
Tea ..	100	198	194	— 4	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	151	154	+ 3

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 28, Wheat 25, Jowari 25, Bajri 25, Gram 35, Turdal 35, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 37, Tea 48, Salt 37, Beef 40, Mutton 51, Milk 48, Ghee 49, Potatoes 43, Onions 57, Cocoanut Oil 12.

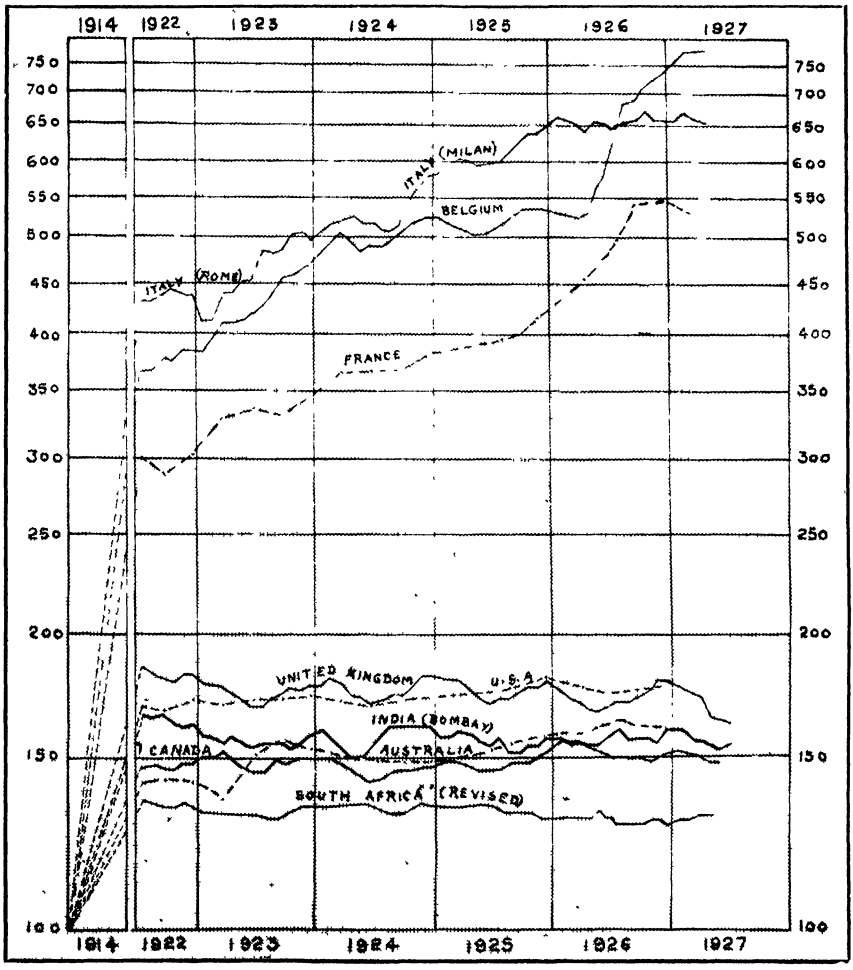
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 3 pies for all items and 10 annas 5 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of one point

In June 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 147 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with May 1927, there was no change in the food group but the non-food group declined by one point. The general index number was 116 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 2 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains recorded a fall of one point due to a fall of 2 points in Cereals having more than counter-balanced a rise of 3 points in Pulses. Rice and wheat fell by 5 and 3 points respectively but turdal registered a rise of 6 points. The other food-grains remained stationary during the month under review.

There was a further fall of 9 points in refined sugar but gul rose by 2 points. The index number for the "Sugar" group declined by 3 points to 129. The "Other food" index advanced from 155 to 164 owing to increases in all the articles included in that group.

Under the non-food group, Raw cotton and Other textiles rose by 7 points each, Oilseeds remained steady and Cotton manufactures, Hides and skins, Metals and Other raw and manufactured articles declined by 1, 11, 5 and 3 points respectively. The index number for the non-food group stood at 149.

The subjoined table compares June 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year:—

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay * — *100 = average of 1926*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with May 1927	+ or − % compared with June 1926	Groups	June 1926	Sep. 1926	Dec. 1926	Mar. 1927	May 1927	June 1927
1. Cereals ..	7	− 1	− 5	1. Cereals ..	103	103	98	101	99	98
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 2	+ 2	2. Pulses ..	102	103	104	106	101	103
3. Sugar ..	3	− 2	−15	3. Sugar ..	101	104	104	90	88	86
4. Other food ..	3	+ 6	+11	4. Other food ..	98	98	95	99	103	109
All food ..	15	..	− 2	All food ..	101	102	99	99	99	99
5. Oilseeds ..	4	..	+ 2	5. Oilseeds ..	106	104	99	107	108	108
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 5	+ 6	6. Raw cotton ..	101	106	78	94	101	106
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	− 1	−12	7. Cotton manufactures ..	103	98	89	93	92	91
8. Other textiles .	2	+ 5	+14	8. Other textiles	96	97	96	98	104	109
9. Hides and skins	3	− 7	− 5	9. Hides & skins	97	91	101	93	100	93
10. Metals ..	5	− 3	− 5	10. Metals ..	99	97	107	103	97	94
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	− 2	+ 6	11. Other raw and manufactur e d articles ..	97	99	104	106	105	103
All non-food ..	29	− 1	− 1	All non-food ..	99	99	97	98	99	98
General Index No.	44	− 1	− 2	General Index No.	101	100	98	99	99	99

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 1064

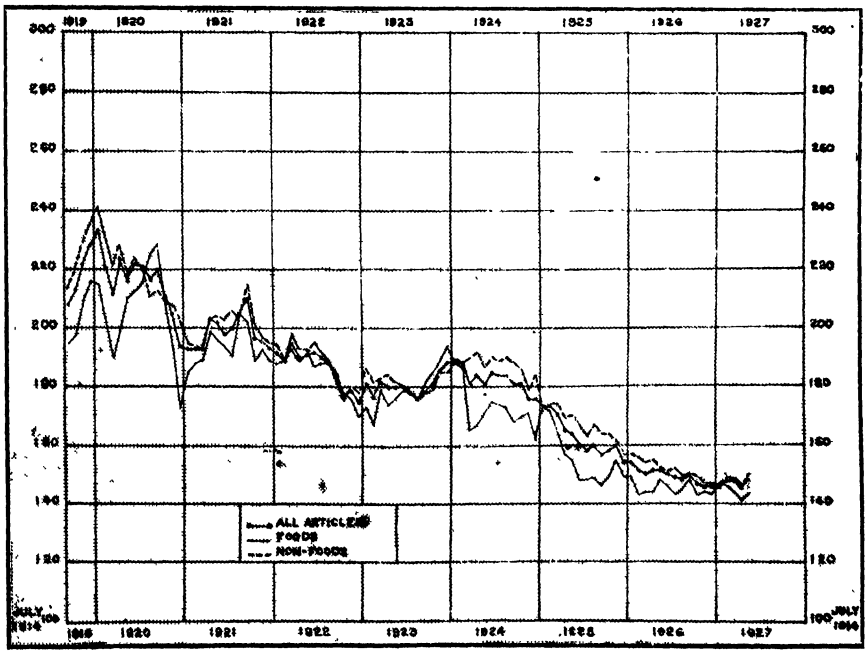
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

—	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
„ „ 1919	202	233	222
„ „ 1920	206	219	216
„ 1921 . ..	193	201	199
„ „ 1922	186	187	187
„ „ 1923	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926	145	152	149
Six-monthly „ 1927	144	148	147

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

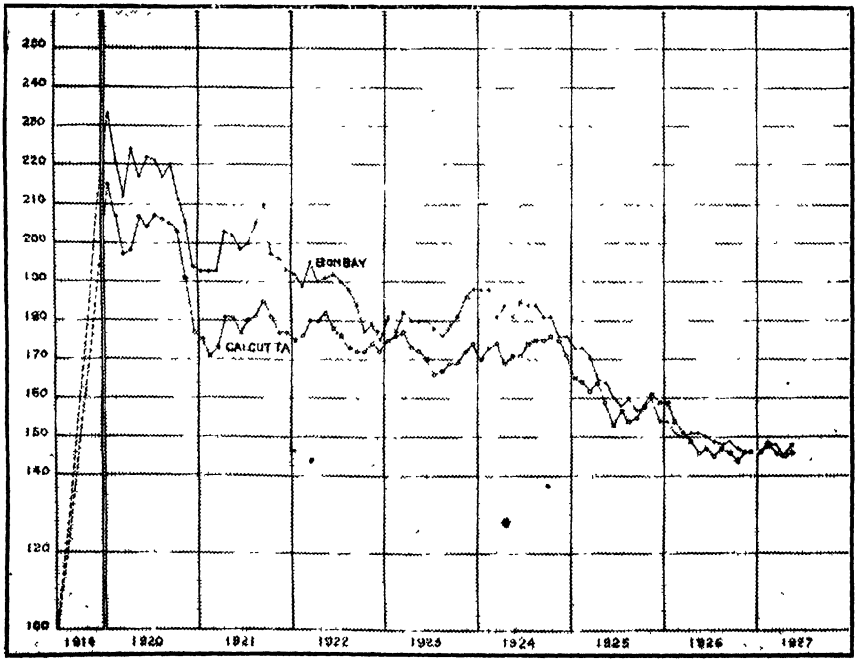


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

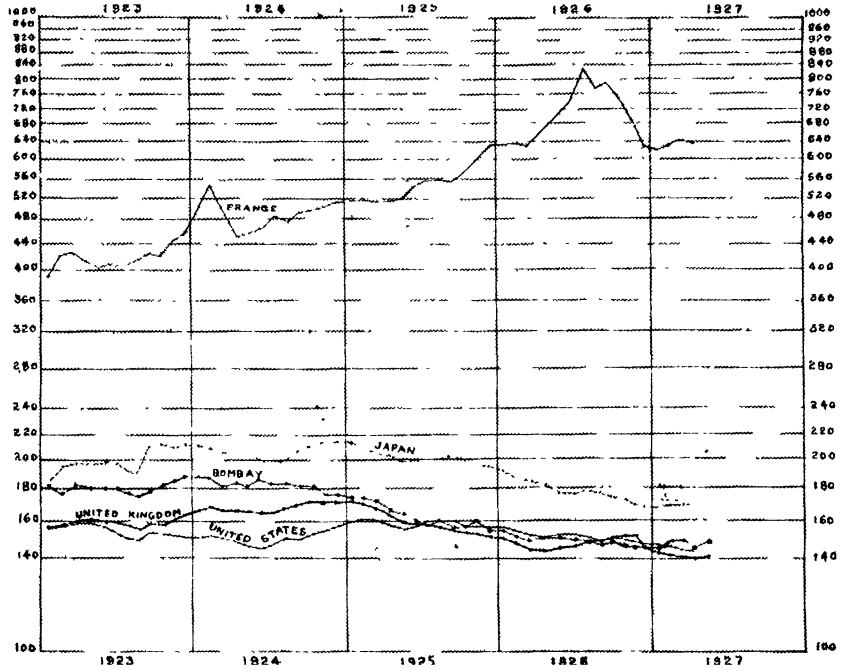
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 and in April 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the *Gazette*. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in "*The Statist.*"

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	May 1927	June 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in June 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	May 1927
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee .	208	5 10	7 10	7 11	+2 1	+0 1
Wheat .	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 8	7 6	+1 8	—0 2
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri	,,	196	4 3	5 6	5 5	+1 2	—0 1
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 0	6 0	+1 5	..
Gram ..	Delhi* ..	,,	188	4 4	6 4	6 4	+2 0	..
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	208	5 11	9 2	9 4	+3 5	+0 2
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	1 11	1 11	+0 10	..
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	,, ..	28	1 2	1 10	1 10	+0 8	..
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb. ..	39	7 10	15 7	15 5	+7 7	—0 2
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 10	2 11	+1 2	+0 1
Beef ..		Lb. ..	39	2 6	4 0	4 2	+1 8	+0 2
Mutton ..		,, ..	39	3 0	6 4	6 5	+3 5	+0 1
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,, ..	28	7 1	13 2	13 7	+6 6	+0 5
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,, .	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+0 4	.
Onions .	Nasik .	,, ..	28	0 3	0 6	0 6	+0 3	..
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality .	,, ..	28	3 7	4 0	3 11	+0 4	—0 1

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Supparibag—Supparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during June 1927 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food grains, rice and turdal rose by 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee while the price of bajri and gram showed no change. Jowari and wheat declined by 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee. Among other food articles, tea recorded a decrease of 2 pies per lb. and cocoanut oil, of one pie per seer. Mutton advanced by one pie and beef by 2 pies per lb. The average price of salt was higher by one pie per paylee and of ghee by 5 pies per seer. The prices of the remaining articles were practically unchanged during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Mutton is more than double and onions are double the prewar price. Sugar (refined), tea, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. and potatoes by 50 per cent. The rise in the prices of foodgrains is between 25 and 60 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 9 per cent. above its pre-war level.

* The equivalent in tolas shown in column 4 relates to Punjab gram.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in May and June 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in May and June 1927 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in May 1927 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in June 1927 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	108	108	114	104	Rice ..	100	105	105	111	111
Wheat ..	100	82	83	97	106	Wheat ..	100	77	84	97	109
Jowari ..	100	80	90	70	93	Jowari ..	100	82	92	72	91
Bajri ..	100	87	100	72	97	Bajri ..	100	87	99	72	97
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	89	95	88	100	Cereals ..	100	88	95	88	102
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	91	76	85	90	Gram ..	100	79	77	84	82
Turdal ..	100	105	99	94	132	Turdal ..	100	106	99	98	110
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	98	88	90	111	Pulses ..	100	93	88	91	96
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	88	97	97	95	Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	97	97	95
Jagri (Gul).	100	87	87	61	61	Jagri (Gul)	100	71	81	64	63
Tea ..	100	101	101	114	105	Tea ..	100	101	101	116	107
Salt ..	100	62	71	109	81	Salt ..	100	60	69	106	79
Beef ..	100	110	60	37	74	Beef ..	100	105	57	35	70
Mutton ..	100	77	77	62	69	Mutton ..	100	76	76	61	68
Milk ..	100	44	61	76	76	Milk ..	100	45	70	76	76
Ghee ..	100	78	79	76	79	Ghee ..	100	75	87	73	77
Potatoes ..	100	75	47	70	59	Potatoes ..	100	60	59	70	59
Onions ..	100	97	93	86	74	Onions ..	100	72	70	86	67
Cocoa nut oil.	100	90	112	112	98	Cocoa nut oil.	100	92	114	114	100
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	83	80	82	79	Other articles of food ..	100	77	80	82	78
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**86**	**85**	**84**	**88**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**81**	**85**	**84**	**86**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles declined by 2 and 5 points at Poona and Karachi respectively and remained stationary at Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Referring back to June 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay, the average for all food articles is lower by 6, 10, 2 and 3 points at Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona respectively.

Of individual articles, the relative price of rice as compared with the previous month registered a decrease except at Poona. Wheat declined at Karachi, was steady at Sholapur and rose at the remaining two centres. The relative price of jowari was higher and that of bajri was stationary except at Poona and Ahmedabad respectively. Refined sugar was slightly lower at Karachi and tea showed an increase at Sholapur and Poona but both were stationary at the other centres. Gul fell at Karachi and Ahmedabad. The relative price of salt, beef and mutton registered a decrease and that of cocoanut oil increased at all the four mofussil centres. Ghee and onions declined except at Ahmedabad and Sholapur respectively.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1927

Abbreviations:— S = *Scanty.* F = *Fair.* N = *Normal.* E = *Excess.*

Rainfall Division	June					July				August				September				October				
	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	7th	14th	21st	28th	5th	12th	19th	26th
I. Bombay Presidency																						
1 Sind — River		F	S	S	S	S	F	N														
1 Sind — Rainfall	N	N	S	S	S	E	S	F														
2 Gujarat	S	S	N	E	N	F	F	N														
3 Deccan	N	F	E	E	N	E	N	S														
4 Konkan	F	S	N	N	E	E	N	S														
II. Madras Presidency																						
1 Malabar	E	E	F	F	S	E	E	N														
2 Deccan	S	E	E	S	E	E	S	E														
3 Coast North	S	S	N	E	E	E	N	E														
4 South East	S	N	E	E	E	E	S	N														
III Mysore	S	F	F	F	S	E	F	F														
IV. Hyderabad																						
1 North	S	F	E	E	E	N	N	S														
2 South	S	F	E	S	E	E	N	E														
V. Central Provinces																						
1 Berar	S	S	F	E	E	E	E	S														
2 West	S	S	F	E	F	E	E	N														
3 East	S	S	F	E	N	F	E	N														
VI. Central India																						
1 West	S	S	S	N	S	N	F	S														
2 East	E	S	S	F	S	S	N	N														
VII. Bengal Presidency	F	E	F	N	F	F	E	S														
VIII. Assam	S	E	N	N	E	E	E	E														
IX. Bihar & Orissa																						
1 Bihar	F	E	S	F	S	S	E	N														
2 Orissa	S	F	S	N	F	N	E	S														
3 Chota Nagpur	F	S	S	F	F	F	E	F														
X. United Provinces																						
1 East	E	S	S	N	S	N	E	N														
2 West	E	S	S	E	S	F	N	E														
XI. Punjab																						
1 East & North	E	S	F	S	S	N	E	N														
2 South West	E	N	F	S	F	S	N	F														
XII. Northwest Frontier	N	S	S	S	N	N	N	S														
XIII. Rajputana																						
1 West	S	S	E	S	S	S	N	F														
2. East	S	S	S	F	F	E	S	F														
XIV. Burma																						
1 Lower	E	N	N	F	F	N	N	F														
2 Upper	E	F	F	F	F	F	F	N														

NOTES—

"Normal" in the chart is a variation from 80 to 120 % of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120 % of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80 %; and "Scanty" below 40 %. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding Hill Stations.

The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in June .. 6 Workpeople involved .. 578 *

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during June 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute," in the official sense, means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in June 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in June 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in June 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in June 1927
	Started before 1st June	Started in June	Total		
Textile	2	3	5	543	589
Transport					
Engineering ..					
Metal					
Miscellaneous ..		1	1	35	105
Total ..	2	4	6	578 *	694

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was six, five of which occurred in textile mills. One of the disputes occurred in Bombay, another in Ahmedabad, and the rest in other centres. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 578 * and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 694.

* This figure excludes the number of workpeople involved in the two disputes which ended on 1st June 1927, causing no time loss during the month.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, February 1927 to June 1927

—	February 1927	March 1927	April 1927	May 1927	June 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	4	7	4	6	6
Disputes in progress at beginning	1	2	1		2
Fresh disputes begun ..	3	5	3	6	4
Disputes ended ..	2	6	4	4	6
Disputes in progress at end.	2	1		2	
Number of workpeople involved	1,177 *	1,521	1,738	3,479	578 †
Aggregate duration in working days ..	775	5,987	3,298	29,688	694
Demands—					
Pay	4	3	1	4	4
Bonus					
Personal		4	2	2	1
Leave and hours ..					
Others			1		1
Results—					
In favour of employees..	1			1	2
Compromised ..		1	2	1	1
In favour of employers..	1	5	2	2	3

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, *viz.*, 692, which carried forward from January.

† This figure excludes the number of workpeople involved in the two disputes which ended on 1st June 1927, causing no time loss during the month.

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months ‡

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
July 1926 ..	4	2	4	661	100	..	..
August „ ..	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September „ ..	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October „ ..	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November „ ..	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December „ ..	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927 ..	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February „ ..	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March „ ..	7	5	6	5,987	83	..	17
April „ ..	4	3	4	3,298	50	..	50
May „ ..	6	6	4	29,688	50	25	25
June „ ..	2	4	6	694	50	33	17

‡ This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth column are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning during the month of June 1927 was 4 as compared with 6 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 578 and the aggregate time loss amounted to 694 working days. Three of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages and one over other causes. All the four disputes ended during the month. In addition, two other disputes which had begun in the previous month came to a close at the beginning of the month under review. Three disputes ended in favour of the employers, two in favour of the employees and one ended in a compromise.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY

The management of the Alexandra (and E. D. Sassoon) Mills, Bombay, curtailed the production of cloth in the mill on account of depression in trade. Consequently, the weavers had not sufficient work to do and their earnings decreased. In the morning of the 1st June, 400 weavers struck work demanding adequate work in order to enable them to earn their usual wages. The superintendent of the mills met the strikers at 10 a.m. and assured them that they would be given more work. The strikers were satisfied at this and resumed work next morning. The strike thus ended in a compromise.

AHMEDABAD

In the Patel Mills the operatives of the frame department demanded an increase in the rates of wages but the management did not accede to their demand. Consequently, 28 operatives struck work on the 6th. The management put up a notice warning the strikers that as they had gone on strike without previous notice they should resume work forthwith and that in default of their doing so they would be dismissed from service and their outstanding wages forfeited. There was no change in the situation up to the 8th. On that day the management engaged 10 new hands and on the 9th, 18 additional new men were employed. The management informed the strikers on the 10th that they would not be reemployed and that their outstanding wages would be paid to them after ten days. This strike ended in favour of the employers.

SHOLAPUR DISTRICT

In connection with the strike in the Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill which had begun in the previous month, the management of the mill signified their consent to pay wages at the old rates and, as a result, all the strikers resumed work on the morning of the 1st June. The result of this strike was in favour of the workers.

JALGAON

The strike in the Bhagirath Mill, about which no settlement had been reported during the month of May, came to a close on the 1st June as a result of all the strikers resuming work when the mill was reopened on that day. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

DHULIA

On the 15th, 115 weavers of the New Pratap Spinning and Weaving Mill, Dhulia, struck work demanding higher rates of wages as paid in the Pratap Mill at Amalner. The management explained to the strikers that as the mill was not in a prosperous condition and the weavers on strike were not so efficient as those in the other mill, the rates of wages could not be increased. The management also notified the strikers that if they did not resume work within 24 hours their services would be terminated. As a result of this notice all the strikers resumed work unconditionally next morning. The result of the strike was in favour of the employers.

KARACHI

Thirty-five sweepers of the Tatta Municipality formed themselves into a union and resolved that their pay should be increased and that their Jamadar should be dismissed by the Municipality for misbehaviour. With a view to enforce their demands they struck work on the 10th. There was no change in the situation during the next two days. On the 13th, the authorities of the Municipality promised the strikers that their Jamadar would be dismissed and that their pay would be increased by Rs. 3 per month per head. Satisfied at this, all the strikers resumed work. The strike thus ended in favour of the workers.

Employment Situation in June 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 123 or 81·46 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of June 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 7·48 per cent. as against 8·31 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working during the month, 77 or 96·25 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 7·85 per cent. as compared with 8·84 per cent. during May.

In Ahmedabad 60 mills were working during the month and 35 or 58·33 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 2·23 per cent. as against 2·18 per cent. in May. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

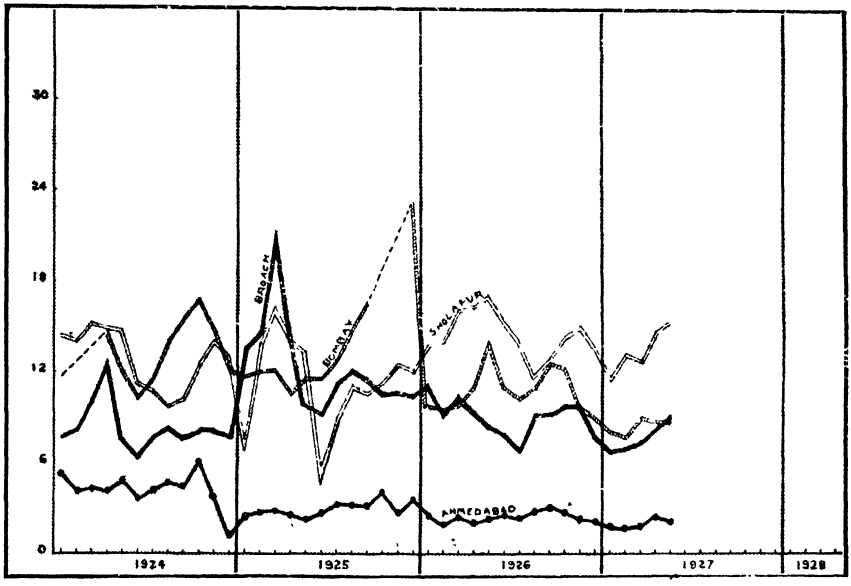
All the mills in Sholapur submitted returns and none of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour. The average percentage absenteeism amounted to 13·74.

Both the mills in Viramgam reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 0·86 per cent.

Out of the three mills in Broach which furnished information one reported that the supply of labour was short of the demand. The average absenteeism amounted to 9·08 per cent. as against 9·17 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was adequate in all the centres studied, whilst absenteeism decreased at all centres except Ahmedabad.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 14·59 per cent. as against 16·89 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 10·97 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 8·26 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 5·90 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Prosecutions under the Indian Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, June 1927

BOMBAY

The occupier of a litho press was prosecuted under Section 41 (*j*) of the Factories Act, 1911, for not submitting an occupation notice form " B " required by Section 33 of the Act. He was convicted and fined Rs. 50.

The occupier of a type casting foundry was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 23 (*a*) for employing children without certificates. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of four cases.

The same occupier was also prosecuted under Section 41 (*h*) for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining the " D " form Register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20.

The manager of a cotton cleaning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*f*) for breach of Section 18 (1) (*a*) for not fencing the fly wheel. He was convicted and fined Re. 1.

KAIRA

The occupier of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (*a*) for breach of Section 23 (*a*). He was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of two cases.

The manager of the same factory was also prosecuted for the same offence and he was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of two cases.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during June 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of June 1927. Information was furnished by all Commissioners in the Presidency and out of a total number of 52 cases disposed of during the month 45 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The cases which were transferred from one Commissioner to another have not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded during the month amounted to Rs. 24,307-8-0 as against Rs. 18,775-4-0 in the previous month and Rs. 13,422-1-0 in June 1926. Out of the 52 cases in which compensation was claimed, 16 were fatal accidents and the remaining 36 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 22 and in other industries to 30. The corresponding figures for June 1926 were 19 and 25.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 52 of whom 49 were adult males and the remaining 3 were adult females.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review 23 were original claims, 28 registration of agreements and one a miscellaneous application. Compensation was awarded in 24 cases, and agreements were registered in 28 cases.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

The activities of the Union continued as usual in the course of the last month. About twelve mill meetings were held in June 1927. Advantages of " Trade Unionism " were explained to the workers at these meetings. Social work has been extended to two more localities in the Jamalpur area where the Ramayana is read out at night and explained to the labourers. Advice is given to the labourers with a view to improve their condition for which purpose two specially trained social workers are engaged.

As regards the system of fines and forfeitures prevailing in the mills a series of articles have been published in the *Majur Sandesh* emphasising the urgent need of some legislation in the matter. Since the *Majur Sandesh* is widely read here and the literate from amongst the workers read out the paper to their fellow workers, the Labour Union has started giving in it some foreign news of interest to the workers. The labourers are thus kept informed of conditions prevailing in foreign countries. Similarly, with a view to increasing the information of the workers, local news of importance is given, as for instance, a brief account of the Tariff Board's Report and at the same time a discussion on the causes of the present depression in the mill industry, avenues of reform, remedies, etc. In the *Illustrated Majur Sandesh* the Labour Union is giving an historical account of the Ahmedabad's mill industry, different periods being described in successive issues.

The Sanitary Association, Ahmedabad, recently organised two important sanitary rounds. In one round they studied conditions prevailing between Bhadra and Jamalpur and in the other Dariapur was visited. By means of such rounds the association is able to make many important suggestions with a view to redressing grievances and removing the insanitary conditions prevailing in different parts of the city.

The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association is preparing for registration under the Trade Unions Act, the members are also anxious to get their Association registered as early as possible.

One mill in Ahmedabad, the Hathising Manufacturing Co., Ltd., has closed down as from the 25th of June 1927.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th July 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture

" The weather and crop reports received so far go to show that the outlook in most parts of the Presidency is now even brighter than it was a month

ago. The position regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at this moment in the different divisions of the Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—During the period under review excellent rain has been received throughout the division with the result that *kharif* sowings are proceeding smoothly almost everywhere and in places the crops are germinating quite satisfactorily. In some places, the rain has been rather too continuous or heavy and people are desirous of a break to enable them to continue their agricultural operations such as interculturing.

Konkan.—The position continues satisfactory in this division. The sowing of rice is completed nearly everywhere and its transplantation is now being pushed on vigorously under the favourable rains of the month.

Deccan.—Good rain has been received, during the period under review, in most of the Division. In parts of Khandesh and Satara a break in the rains is wished for to afford the cultivators an opportunity for weeding. The conditions of crops in most parts of the Division is quite satisfactory. A special feature of the season appears that even in the *east* of the Division the rainfall has been sufficient and well-distributed which has not been the case for many years.

Karnatak.—More rain is still needed in the eastern portions of the Belgaum and Dharwar districts and in some places in the Bijapur district. Here, the *kharif* sowings are retarded and the germination of the seed is not satisfactory. If we leave this area out, however, the position in the rest of the division, *viz.*, the western and the central parts, is quite satisfactory. *Kharif* sowings have been finished in most places and the young crops are showing a fairly healthy development."

All-India Postal and R. M. S. Conference

SEVENTH SESSION IN NAGPUR

In an article reviewing the Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency for the second quarter of the current year published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1927 it was stated that an account of the proceedings of the above conference would be given in this issue of the *Labour Gazette.* We give below a brief account of the main proceedings of the conference.

The Seventh Session of the All-India Postal and R. M. S. Conference was held in Nagpur on the 11th, 12th and 13th June 1927. Dr. B. S. Moonje, M.L.A., presided. The delegates to the Conference included representatives from all classes and grades of post-office workers and numbered 429. Several distinguished visitors were also present at the opening of the session. Mr. Mavlanker, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, in his address of welcome, referred to some of the important grievances of the postal workers. After the Annual Report was presented to the Conference by the General Secretary of the All-India Union and was unanimously adopted, Dr. Moonje delivered his presidential address. The President narrated his impressions about the organisation and the grievances of post office workers formed during the debates in the last session of the Legislative Assembly on the Post Office Budget and said

that he was convinced of the righteousness of their cause. He pointed out that postal unions which had once been looked upon with a certain amount of distrust and suspicion were now not only recognised by Government but were also respected in all quarters. While he appreciated the disciplined organisation and the consolidation of postal unions, he urged that all possible efforts should be made to enlist every worker in the Department as a member, in view of the fact that out of a total of about 150,000 workers, only 40,000 workers were on the rolls of the different postal unions. Referring to the special session of the Conference held at Lucknow in 1926 in order to unify all ranks of the service, the President observed that the failure of the Conference was due to differential interpretations of the findings of the Round Table Conference and hoped that with a little more perseverence and by skilful negotiations a satisfactory solution of the difficulties in the way of achieving unity would be found. On the question of revision of pay for mail-guards, postmen, branch postmasters, overseers and other inferior servants of the Post Office and R.M.S. Departments, Dr. Moonje assured the Conference that Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra had done all he could within the limit of his resources. He further advised them not to formulate fresh demands until and unless their old grievances were redressed. Before closing his speech the President drew attention to the concluding remarks of the address of Mr. Devkiprasad Sinha at the Patna sessions of the Conference and pointed out that their success lay in their loyalty to the Department and efficiency in their work.

Several important questions were decided at the Conference. The Conference came to a final decision with regard to the demands of certain unions for independent and separate voting on their own questions and allowed such unions to affiliate themselves on a provincial basis. Another important decision was made with regard to the transfer of the headquarters of the All-India Union from Calcutta to Delhi. The Mutual Benefit Fund of the All-India Union received the formal sanction of the Conference and a sum of Rs. 500 has been placed at the disposal of the General Secretary for obtaining expert actuarial opinion and for other initial expenses. The only question on which no decision could be arrived at was regarding the creation of the Trust of the 10 per cent. Reserve Fund. Nearly two lakhs of rupees have accumulated to this Fund. Unfortunately there were practical difficulties experienced in the management and the operation of the Fund. The creation of the Trust and the registration of the Trust deed were, therefore, held over pending expert legal opinion on the practical difficulties of the question.

The delegates from Burma invited the next session to Rangoon. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year :—

President : Dr. B. S. Moonje, M.L.A.
General Secretary : Mr. Tarapad Mukerjee.
Honorary Secretary : Mr. Manmohanlal Topa.

In a short speech before concluding the business of the Conference, Dr. Moonje assured the delegates of his unstinted support to their cause in the Assembly. After the usual thanksgiving, the Conference was dissolved.

Census of Production in England

COTTON TRADES

For the Third Census of Production separate Schedules were drawn up for the spinning and the weaving sections of the Cotton Trade, and firms who were both spinners of yarn and manufacturers of piecegoods were required to furnish a separate return for each department of their business. Consequently no effective comparison can be made between the particulars available for the year 1924 in respect of the spinning section of the trade and those obtained for the year 1907, when the cotton trade was treated as one unit and no particulars were recorded in regard to the output of cotton yarn which was used for manufacturing purposes by the firms who produced it.

The following statement gives particulars of the output of the spinning branch of the industry during the year 1924 :—

Kind of Goods	Total make of Single Yarns	Goods made and sold or added to stock		Work done on Commission	
	Quantities	Quantities	Net Selling Value	Quantities	Amount received for work done
	Lbs. 1,000	Lbs. 1,000	£	Lbs. 1,000	£
Cotton Yarns					
Counts up to No. 40 ..	1,009,154	1,066,672	109,390,000	3,013	86,000
Counts over No. 40 and up to No. 80	310,037	363,627	57,026,000	4,664	208,000
Counts over No. 80 and up to No. 120	55,833	74,486	17,740,000	2,554	224,000
Counts over No. 120 ..	3,623	5,724	1,946,000	49	6,000
Total Yarns ..	1,378,647	1,510,509	186,102,000	10,280	524,000
Cotton Waste (unmanufactured) sold ..		235,046	5,547,000	..	
All Other Products ..			1,694,000	..	
Total Value ..			193,343,000	..	
Total Value of Goods made and work done ..				..	£193,867,000

It will be observed that the quantities shown under the heading " Total Make of Single Yarn " are exceeded by those in the adjoining column. The latter include doubled yarns, both such as were doubled by the firms in whose mills they were spun and yarns bought for doubling. The quantities shown under " Work done on Commission " also relate mainly to the doubling of yarn, which is thus recorded at two stages of handling.

The figures of "Total Make" have been obtained with a view to the elimination of such duplication of records.

In addition to the record of the same goods at different stages of handling, a further consideration affects the comparison of yarns spun with yarns sold, since an increase of weight due to absorption of moisture commonly occurs between spinning and delivery. Further, in some cases the yarns have been sized before delivery to purchasers, involving an increase of weight.

Exports.—The quantity of cotton yarn exported in the year 1924 was 163,056,000 lbs., or about 11·8 per cent. of the total quantity produced.* The total output of single cotton yarn in the United Kingdom in the year 1907 was estimated at 1,800,000,000 lbs. of which 241,077,000 lbs. or about 13·4 per cent., were exported.

Net Output.—The net output of the spinning branch of the trade was £46,763,000, that sum representing the amount by which the total value of the output exceeded the cost of materials used and the value of work given out. The net output per person employed was £190.

Persons Employed.—The average number of operatives employed in spinning mills during the year 1924 was 238,438, and 7208 persons engaged in management and in clerical and technical work were also returned on Schedules for the spinning trade. Firms carrying out the processes of both spinning and weaving were, however, as a rule, unable to apportion their management and clerical staff between these two branches of their business; the majority of such firms returned their entire salaried staff on Schedules for the spinning trade, and the number stated above (7208) as applied to the spinning trade solely, is, accordingly, excessive to some extent.

Classified according to age and sex, the numbers of operatives engaged in connection with the spinning trade were as follows :—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
Under 18 years	18,180	29,508	47,688
Over 18 years	79,580	111,170	190,750
Total ..	97,760	140,678	238,438

The largest number returned as at work at any time during the year was 250,691, in December, and the smallest 232,717, in February.

Power.—The aggregate capacity of engines as returned on Schedules for the spinning branch is in excess of that actually employed in spinning mills, as firms engaged in both spinning and weaving at one factory have commonly furnished, usually on the Schedule for the spinning trade, particulars covering the power employed in both departments.

* The exports of cotton yarns in 1924 include 578,000 lbs. consigned to the Irish Free State.

Particulars returned on Schedules for the spinning branch in regard to mechanical power are, accordingly, included in the statement given in the portion of the article which covers the cotton trade as a whole.

COTTON WEAVING

The statement on this page shows the output of piecegoods made for sale during the year 1924 as returned on Schedules for the weaving branch together with corresponding aggregates for the year 1907.

The output of other products returned on Schedules for the weaving trade was as follows :—

Other Products of the Cotton Weaving Trade

Kind of Goods	1924		1907	
	Quantity	Net Selling Value	Quantity	Net Selling Value
	Cwts.	£	Cwts	£
Machinery Belting (Woven hair or cotton)	47,908	857,000	49,000	388,000
Manufactured cotton cleaning waste	472,327	810,000		
Artificial silk goods other than apparel —				
(*a*) Piecegoods made wholly from artificial silk (including plushes)	. ..	53,000		9,363,000
(*b*) Other sorts		338,000		
All other products and work done on commission	...	10,485,000		
Total value of output ..		12,543,000		9,751,000

Piecegoods made for sale	1924				1907	
	Quantity			Net selling value	Quantity	Net selling value
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 square yards	Cwts	£	1,000 linear yards	£
Piecegoods (of Cotton or of cotton mixed with other materials) including flags, handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece :—						
(*a*) Unbleached, Grey (including unbleached Dhooties) . .	4,948,164	5,390,973	9,312,255	139,621,000	6,376,451	71,530,000
(*b*) Manufactured wholly or in part of dyed yarn, and commonly known as coloured cottons .	436,308	408,286	858,769	16,723,000	643,278*	9,783,000*
Total piece-goods made for sale	5,384,472	5,799,259	10,171,024	156,344,000	7,019,729	81,313,000

* These figures include relatively small quantities of bleached fabrics.

The output of piecegoods by firms working on commission during the two years was as follows :—

Piecegoods made on commission	1924				1907	
	Quantity			Amount received for work done	Quantity	Amount received for work done
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 square yards	Cwts.	£	1,000 linear yards	£
Piecegoods (of Cotton or of cotton mixed with other materials) including flags, handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece :—						
(*a*) Unbleached, grey (including unbleached dhooties) .	11,796	12,134	30,011	120,000	10,740	51,000
(*b*) Manufactured wholly or in part of dyed yarn and commonly known as coloured cottons ..	29,693	32,098	70,392	248,000	45,734	214,000
Total piecegoods made on commission ..	41,489	44,232	100,403	368,000	56,474	265,000

It will be noted that the proportionate increase in aggregate value is smaller for this group of products than for the main products of the industry. This is in part due to the fact that, in reporting on the Census of 1907, the particulars relating to sewing cotton could not be shown separately in view of the provisions of the Census of Production Act, and were included under the heading "Other Cotton Manufactures." In the figures for 1924, the particulars regarding this product have been included with those relating to doubled yarns, and the aggregates shown above for 1924 and 1907 are, accordingly, not equally comprehensive.

The gross value of the output of firms making returns on Schedules for the weaving trade thus amounted to £169,255,000. The net output of this branch of the trade was £35,617,000, and the net output per person employed £131.

Exports.—Cotton piecegoods, together with cotton flags, handkerchiefs and shawls not in the piece, exported in the year 1924 amounted to 4,648,718,800 linear yards, or 85·7 per cent. of the total quantity manufactured.* In the year 1907, 6,297,708,000 linear yards of piecegoods were exported, or 88·9 per cent. of the total production in that year. The falling off in the linear yardage of exports, comparing the year 1924 with the year 1907, amounted, therefore, to about 27 per cent., and in that of aggregate production to about 23 per cent.

The following table shows, for 1924, the comparison of the different units of quantity in which output and foreign trade have been expressed :—

Piecegoods	Linear yards	Square yards	Weight lbs.
	Millions	Millions	Millions
Production	5,426	5,843	1,150
Exports	4,649	4,485	826
Net Imports	31	36	17

* Of this amount 21,798,500 linear yards were exported to the Irish Free State. The exclusion of this amount from the exports in 1924 would reduce the proportion of exports to production to 85·3 per cent.

Cloth as exported is, in large proportion, bleached, dyed, or printed, and the square yardage and weight may not be comparable at the grey and finished stages. The weight differs from that of the raw cotton consumed in the production of the goods, both because of the addition of weight in sizing and dressing, of variations in moisture content, and also of loss due to waste.

It appears to be indicated, however, that exported piecegoods have an average width less than 35 inches, while the total production is returned as averaging nearly 39 inches in width. In weight the exports are shown as substantially lighter on the average than the returns of production show for the total output. It would appear, accordingly, that the piecegoods disposed of in the home market exceeded considerably in average width and in weight per square yard those shipped abroad.

Persons Employed.—The average number of operatives employed by firms whose returns were made on the schedules for the cotton weaving trade was 263,383, and the number mainly engaged in management and in clerical and technical work was 8,203. In the following statement the operative staff are classified in accordance with the age and sex divisions adopted in the Census Schedule :—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
Under 18 years	8,905	23,754	32,659
Over 18 years	74,325	156,399	230,724
Total	83,230	180,153	263,383

The largest number of operatives at work at one time during the year was in September (271,003), and the smallest in June (259,066).

COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING

For purposes of comparison with the results of the First Census, the aggregate numbers of persons employed, as returned on Schedules for the spinning and weaving branches of the trade, are combined in the following statement, the numbers returned for the year 1907 in respect of the cotton trade as a whole being added :—

Ages	1924			1907		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 18 years ..	28,123	53,592	81,715	51,153	89,761	140,914
Over 18 years ..	166,099	269,418	435,517	168,827	262,321	431,148
Total ..	194,222	323,010	517,232	219,980	352,082	572,062

The falling off in numbers employed in the cotton trade as a whole in the year 1924 amounted to about 10 per cent. compared with the year

1907. Apart from a small decrease in adult males, the reduction was confined to persons under 18 years of age. An increase of over 7,000 in female employees over 18 years of age is shown.

Power.—The particulars furnished in regard to the Engine equipment of the cotton trade as a whole are shown below, together with corresponding aggregates for the year 1907 :—

Kind of Engines	1924	1907
	H. P.	H. P.
Steam Engines, Reciprocating	1,331,454	1,210,374
Steam Turbines	51,540	8,593
Internal Combustion Engines	7,016	8,890
Other Power	8,675	11,355
Total ..	1,398,685	1,239,212

Of the total horse-power shown for the year 1924, 98,701 horse-power, or about 7·1 per cent., was returned as " in reserve or idle."

The increased use of electrical power in the cotton trade since the year 1907 is shown by the following statement, in which particulars of the capacity of electric generators in cotton mills in the two years are given :—

Electric Generators	1924	1907
	Kilowatts	Kilowatts
Electric Generators driven by :—		
Steam engines, reciprocating	80,092	28,906
Steam Turbines	25,545	2,681
Other Power	3,875	487
Total ..	109,512	32 074

The total horse-power of electric motors driven by electricity generated in cotton factories was returned as 128,506. In addition, electric motors of a total horse-power of 176,959 were included in Returns received for the year 1924 as driven by purchased electricity. Of this aggregate, 12,299 horse-power, or about 7·0 per cent., were " in reserve or idle." Similar particulars were not obtained for 1907.

For the cotton spinning and weaving industry as a whole some of the leading data resulting from the Census of 1907, 1912 and 1924 may be compared. The compilation and revision of the information obtained at the Second Census of 1912 for the cotton industry had reached, when the progress of that Census was interrupted by the war, a stage much more advanced than in the majority of other industries, and in fact they were complete enough in the main particulars to render possible the comparisons

in question. The particulars for firms making returns on the Schedules for these branches of cotton manufacture give the following results :—

Year	Average number employed	Aggregate net output	Net output per head	Engine power
		£	£	H. P.
1907	572,062	45,007,000	79	1,239,212
1912	621,516	50,550,000	81	1,403,001*
1924	517,232	82,380,000	159	1,398,685*

For 1907 and 1924 the inquiry covered all establishments, whatever their magnitude. For 1912 detailed particulars were not required from establishments at which not more than five persons in addition to the proprietor were employed. These exemptions were of but trifling importance in the case of the cotton trades.

The aggregate quantities of cotton yarn and cloth made in the three years compare with the exports and imports of the same years, as shown below :—

	Production	Exports	Net Imports
	Million lbs.	Million lbs.	Million lbs.
Yarn :			
1907	1,800	241	10
1912	1,976	244	8
1924	1,379	†162	10
	Million lin. yards	Million lin. yards	Million lin. yards
Piece-goods :			
1907	7,088	6,298	65
1912	8,044	6,913	98
1924	5,426	†4,627	31

The totals of production shown for 1907 and 1912 include small quantities made by manufacturers whose Returns were made on Schedules other than that for cotton spinning and weaving and of the production of the small number of firms in Ireland, whose output in those years could not be shown separately.

The relative increase in output in 1912 compared with 1907 was, particularly in the case of yardage of piecegoods, somewhat greater than the relative increase in numbers employed. The net output per head, which was £79 in 1907, was £81 in 1912. The decrease in 1924 compared with 1912, of 30 per cent. in weight of yarn spun and of nearly 33 per cent. in yardage of piecegoods woven, was accompanied by a decrease in the number of persons employed in the spinning mills and weaving sheds of about one-sixth. The decrease in the normal hours worked and the

*In addition, electric motors driven by purchased electricity, of a total horse-power of 29,903 in 1912 and 176,959 in 1924. Corresponding particulars for 1907 were not ascertained.

† Excluding exports to the Irish Free State.

considerable and varying extent to which in 1924, short time was worked in different sections of the cotton industry render any attempt to compare the quantity output per worker difficult and involved. In comparing the net output per head in the industry as a whole, namely £159 in 1924, with that in the spinning section alone, £190, and in the weaving section, £131, it may be noted that a similar, but somewhat less marked, contrast is indicated by the comparison of the particulars received from factories engaged in spinning only and in weaving only in respect of 1912. For 1907 the corresponding tabulation was not carried out.

The linear yardage of piecegoods shown in the returns of production was greater than that of the excess of exports over imports in 1907 by 855 million yards. In 1912 the corresponding excess was 1229 million yards and in 1924 it was 830 million yards. Thus the yardage apparently available for uses other than export as piecegoods was somewhat less in 1924 than in 1907, but in 1912 the corresponding yardage was much greater than in either of the other two years. The percentage of exports to production was less in 1912 than in 1907, and less in 1924 than in 1912. (*From "Board of Trade Journal and Commercial Gazette," London, March 3, 1927.*)

Labour in Ceylon

The Ceylon Blue Book for 1926 issued by the Department of Statistics and Office Systems gives some interesting information on the question of labour in Ceylon. It is pointed out that on the estates in Ceylon out of an estimated population of 733,000 about 86 per cent. are Indian immigrant labourers. The hours of work are generally from 6-30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an interval of about one hour for the midday meal. Night work on the estates only takes place in factories during very busy seasons.

Including bonuses the general average minimum wages for the most unskilled time workers on the estates vary from 50 to 55 cents a day for men, 30 to 35 cents for women and 20 to 35 cents for children. Some men earn up to 65 cents and women up to 50 cents a day at time work. More than half the work on the estates is done on a piecework basis and thus many labourers are able to earn twice or three times the amount earned at time work rates. In addition to nominal or cash wages, labourers on the estates receive bonuses as well as indirect wages such as free housing, free medical aid, free firewood, free maternity benefit, and rice at about 14 per cent. below the market rate. On some estates they have the free use of garden plots and get free issue of cloths and sometimes presents at festivals.

It is proposed to introduce legal minimum wage rates to workers on the estates. The rates proposed for time-workers are:

	Men	Women	Children
	cents	cents	cents
Low-country	50	40	30
Mid-country	52	41	31
Up-country	54	43	32

Together with these wages will be given good unblended rice at Rs. 6·4 a bushel and a free issue of rice to widows with dependents and for non-working children.

Under the new housing scheme about 80,000 rooms have been either constructed or reconstructed on the estates within the four years 1922-1925 at a cost of over Rs. 25,000,000. The ultimate total cost of this scheme will, it is estimated, be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 46,000,000.

It is pointed out that immigrant labour is more regular in attendance than indigenous labour. The immigrant labour consists mostly of Indian Tamils.

In addition to the large number of immigrant Indian labourers on the estates, a considerable number of them is employed in the Government Departments such as Public Works, Railways, Harbour Works, Local Bodies, etc. The general conditions in Government service are governed by provisions decided upon on the advice of the Labour Advisory Committee.

German Labour Courts Act

An Act, dated 23rd December 1926, provides for the establishment in Germany of a system of Labour Courts, and for the abolition of the existing Industrial and Commercial Courts * and other bodies at present empowered to deal with certain classes of labour disputes. The powers of the new Labour Courts are wider than those of the Industrial and Commercial Courts, and, unlike these bodies, they are directly connected with the Department of Justice.

The tribunals under the new Act are to be : (1) the local Labour Courts ; (2) the State Labour Courts ; and (3) the Federal Labour Court. The Labour Courts have jurisdiction, to the exclusion of the ordinary courts, and irrespective of the amount in dispute, in all civil disputes between parties to collective agreements, or between such parties and third parties in disputes arising out of collective agreements, or concerning the existence or non-existence of collective agreements, or between parties competent to make collective agreements or between these parties and third parties with regard to illegal actions, " so far as measures for the purpose of the labour conflict or questions of the right of combination are concerned."† They also have jurisdiction in disputes between employers and workers arising out of employment or apprenticeship, or concerning the existence or non-existence of a contract of employment or apprenticeship, or arising out of illegal actions in so far as these are concerned with employment or apprenticeship, or in disputes arising out of the Works Council Act for which the conciliation committees have hitherto been competent.

The new Labour Courts have no jurisdiction in disputes relating to conditions of employment when they arise out of a claim to vary such

* These courts were State or communal institutions of old standing which were not connected with the Department of Justice. They existed primarily to adjust individual disputes and claims, but, on the request of both parties to a collective dispute, they could act as boards of conciliation and arbitration. Neither the industrial courts nor the nominated boards of conciliation possessed powers to enforce their decisions. Later, under the Conciliation Order of 30th October 1923, in order to lighten the work of the conciliation committees, all " individual " disputes were transferred to these courts, pending the establishment of the Labour Courts.

† The conciliation committees appointed under the order of 30th October 1923 are the competent bodies for assisting in the conclusion of collective agreements.

conditions. The competent authorities in this class of case are the Conciliation Committees.

The courts of first instance or local Labour Courts, whose area of jurisdiction will normally coincide with that of one or more of the local civil courts,* will consist of the requisite number of presidents, vice-presidents and assessors. Each chamber of the Court is to consist of one chairman with one assessor representing the employers and one representing the workers. In cases arising out of collective agreements, the membership of the chamber is to be increased by two assessors, one representing the employers and one the workers. Chambers are to be set up to deal with disputes affecting manual and non-manual workers respectively and special chambers (handicrafts courts) must be set up for disputes relating to handicrafts. Where necessary special chambers may be set up to deal with disputes in particular occupations and trades or particular groups of workers.

The presidents and vice-presidents are to be appointed by the State Department of Justice, in conjunction with the Supreme State Authority for social administration. They are either to be judges or persons possessing special knowledge of labour matters, preference being given to judges who are ex-chairmen of conciliation committees. They are to be appointed for not less than one year and not more than nine. After holding office for three years, presidents may be appointed for life. Presidents and vice-presidents have the rights and duties of State judicial officials. Assessors are to be appointed by the Higher Administrative Authorities for a period of three years (with due consideration for minority representation) from nomination lists submitted by the local trade associations of employers and workers. Persons appointed as assessors may not refuse to act except for serious (specified) reasons. Assessors receive compensation for travelling expenses and loss of wages or salary arising out of the execution of their office.

Similar regulations apply to the constitution of the State Labour Courts, which are normally to be presided over by judges on the rota of the State Labour Court who are specially qualified by their knowledge of labour matters. The Federal Labour Court will function as a branch of the Federal Court and will consist of presidents chosen from the chief judges of the Federal Court, judicial assessors, and non-judicial assessors, representing employers and workers, appointed by the Federal Minister of Labour in conjunction with the Federal Minister of Justice from nomination lists submitted by the respective national trade organisations.

Assessors representing employers and workers are to have the official title of " Labour Judge, " " State Labour Judge " or " Federal Labour Judge, " as the case may be.

Disputes are to be settled by judgment or decision.† The local Labour Courts have jurisdiction in the first instance. Appeal may be made to the State Labour Courts in cases where the amount in dispute exceeds 300 Reichsmarks, or where the local court admits the appeal on account of the importance of the dispute. In special cases appeal may be had from

*In setting up local Labour Courts, regard is to be had, wherever possible, to the areas of jurisdiction of the former Industrial and Commercial Courts.

† Decisions are given in cases arising under the Works Council Act.

the judgment of the State Labour Courts to the Federal Labour Court. The ordinary procedure is similar to that applicable to civil disputes. It is laid down that legal procedure in all the labour tribunals shall be conducted expeditiously.

Litigants in the local courts may appear in person or be represented by duly accredited members or officials of their respective trade associations. Solicitors or counsel are not permitted to appear on behalf of clients in these courts. Proceedings in the State Labour Courts may be conducted either by solicitors or counsel or by accredited members or officials of the trade association of the litigant; while in the Federal Labour Court parties to disputes must be legally represented.

Labour Court fees are to be a proportion of the amount involved in the dispute; one mark if the amount involved is 20 marks or less; two marks if the amount is from 20 to 60 marks; three marks if the amount is from 60 to 100 marks, rising by three marks for every additional 100 marks up to a maximum of five hundred marks.

The costs of the local and State Labour Courts are to be borne by the State by which they are established, and the costs of the Federal Labour Court by the Reich.

The last section of the Act contains provisions relating to agreements for excluding the jurisdiction of the labour tribunals. The parties to a collective agreement may, by express agreement, exclude the jurisdiction of the Labour Courts in respect of such agreement, on condition that disputes arising out of the agreement are to be settled by an arbitration court. Such an arbitration agreement is to constitute a bar to all legal proceedings. The arbitration court is normally to consist of an equal number of employers and workers. It may also include impartial persons. The award of the court is given by a simple majority of the members and has the same effect as a judgment of the Labour Court. Appeal for annulment of such award may be made to the Labour Court which would be competent to enforce the award.

The parties capable of entering into an arbitration agreement in connection with labour disputes may also, without excluding the jurisdiction of the Labour Court, agree that legal proceedings may be preceded by conciliation proceedings conducted by persons agreed upon between them. Such a conciliation agreement also constitutes a bar to legal proceedings. The bar is removed after conciliation has failed.

Parties to an agreement who are capable of concluding an arbitration agreement in labour disputes may also, without excluding the jurisdiction of the Labour Court, agree that questions of fact material to the settlement of the dispute shall be decided by expert arbitration (expert arbitration agreement). All questions so settled by arbitration are excluded from the matters requiring proof in the legal proceedings before the Labour Court.

The Act is to come into force on 1st July 1927, unless the Federal Minister of Labour in conjunction with the Federal Minister of Justice decides on a later date, and the relevant provisions of other Acts will thereafter be repealed. Detailed regulations for the application of the Act are to be issued by the Federal Ministers of Labour and Justice jointly. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.*)

Preliminary Results of German Industrial Census, 1925

The publication of the Federal Statistical Office, *Wirtschaft und Statistik* (No. 4 for the current year), contains provisional results of the German industrial census carried out simultaneously with the quinquennial census of population in June 1925. The former comprised all industrial and commercial undertakings in Germany (with the exception of the Saar Territory), including establishments owned by Federal, State, communal and other public authorities. The information furnished covers the number of undertakings, the number of workers employed, the horse-power of the machinery in use, and of motor vehicles, watercraft and aircraft utilised in connection with the various undertakings. The most recent comparable figures available are those resulting from the Census of Occupations taken in 1907, but owing to differences in the methods adopted, exac comparisons are in many cases impossible. Moreover, the 1907 figures include those districts ceded to other States under the Peace Treaty of 1919, as well as the Saar Territory. Allowing for these factors, and excluding from the 1925 figures those relating to State, etc., establishments (which were not dealt with in the 1907 census) the figures for the respective years are as follows :—

Total Number of	1907 Present German territory excluding Saar	1925 Present German territory excluding Saar	Percentage increase in 1925 compared with 1907
Industrial undertakings	2,983,000	3,412,000	14·4
Employed persons (male)	9,993,000	12,488,000	25·0
Employed persons (female)	3,282,000	4,565,000	39·1
Total employed persons (male and female) ..	13,275,000	17,053,000	28·5

While the total population of Germany (excluding the Saar) is stated to have increased by 13·5 per cent. between 1907 and 1925,* it will be seen from the above figures that the number of persons employed in industry and commerce increased by 28·5 per cent. It is pointed out, however, that this census was taken in a period of considerable industrial prosperity, and that, owing to the subsequent economic depression, the number of manual and non-manual workers in employment is now about one million less than it was in June 1925.

The total number of undertakings and employed persons (including those categories disregarded in the above table in order to afford a comparison with the 1907 figures) are stated to be 3,455,111 and 18,388,696, respectively. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.*)

* The total population of Germany (excluding the Saar) according to the provisional results of the 1925 population census, was 62,539,098 (Supplement No. 2, *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, 1925).

The "Labour Charter" in Italy

TEXT OF THE DOCUMENT

The Italian "Labour Charter" has now been approved by the Fascist Grand Council, and promulgated.

The following is the text of the "Charter" as approved by the Fascist Grand Council.

THE CORPORATE STATE AND ITS ORGANISATIONS

Section 1.—The Italian nation is an organism with specific ends, a separate life, and methods of action superior to those of the individuals or groups which compose it. It constitutes a moral, political and economic unity the complete realisation of which is found in the Fascist State.

Section 2.—Labour in all its forms, intellectual, technical and manual, is a social duty. On this count, and on this count alone, it is protected by the State. Production as a whole must be regarded as a unit from the national point of view. Its objectives are all of the same kind, and may be summarised as the wellbeing of producers and the development of the national power.

Section 3.—Occupational or trade union organisation is free, but only trade unions which are duly recognised and subject to State control are entitled legally to represent all the categories of employers or workers for whom they are constituted, to protect their interests *vis-à-vis* the State or other occupational associations, to conclude collective labour agreements which are compulsory for all persons belonging to their category, to impose contributions on their members, and on their behalf to exercise delegated powers in the public interest.

Section 4.—The concrete expression of solidarity between the various factors in production is the collective agreement, through the conciliation of the opposing interests of employers and workers, and their subordination to the higher interests of production.

Section 5.—The industrial courts ("magistracy of labour") constitute the organisation through which the State intervenes to settle labour disputes, whether in connexion with the observance of agreements or other existing provisions, or in connexion with the determination of new conditions of labour.

Section 6.—Legally recognised occupational associations secure juridical equality between employers and workers, and maintain and seek to improve the regime of discipline in production and labour. The corporations are the unifying organisation of the forces of production, and fully represent its interests. In virtue of this plenary representation, the corporations are legally recognised as State organisations, since the interests of production are national interests.

Section 7.—The corporate State considers private enterprise in the sphere of production as being the most effective and useful method of securing the interests of the nation. Since private organisation of production is a work of national importance, the head of an undertaking is responsible to the State for the development of production. From the collaboration between the forces of production is derived a reciprocity of rights and duties. The worker, whether a technician, a salaried

employee, or a manual labourer, collaborates actively in the work of an economic undertaking, and the direction of the undertaking devolves upon the employer, who is responsible for it.

Section 8.—Occupational associations of employers are required by all means in their power to increase and improve the production of the goods which they produce, and to reduce the cost thereof. The representatives of persons who carry on a liberal profession or an art, and associations of employees in public undertakings, are required to combine in protecting the interests of art, science and letters, in the improvement of production, and in the achievement of the moral objects of the corporate system.

Section 9.—State intervention in economic production takes place only when private enterprise is wanting or inadequate, or when the political interests of the state are at stake. Such intervention may take the form of control, encouragement or direct administration.

Section 10.—In the event of collective labour disputes, legal action cannot take place unless the corporate organisation has first made attempts at conciliation. In individual disputes concerning the interpretation and enforcement of collective labour agreements, occupational associations are allowed to proffer their good offices for conciliation. Competence in such disputes belongs to the ordinary courts, with the assistance of assessors appointed by the occupational associations concerned.

THE COLLECTIVE LABOUR AGREEMENT AND LABOUR GUARANTEES

Section 11.—Occupational associations are compelled to regulate labour relations between the categories of employers and workers whom they represent, by means of the collective agreement. The collective labour agreement is concluded between associations of the first degree, under the direction and control of the central organisations; but the association of the first degree may be replaced by the association of the higher degree in the cases provided for in the laws and statutes. All collective agreements must, under pain of being null and void, contain precise rules concerning disciplinary relations, the period of probation, rates of wages and the methods of paying wages, and hours of work.

DETERMINATION OF FAIR WAGES

Section 12.—Trade union action, the conciliation work of the corporate organisations and the awards of the labour courts all constitute guarantees that wages will correspond to the normal requirements of life, to the possibilities of production and to the output of labour. The work of determining the wage is carried out without reference to any general rules, and is entrusted to the parties to the collective agreement.

Section 13.—The consequences of production crises and of currency disturbances must be distributed equally between all the factors of production. Data established by the public departments, by the Central Statistical Institute and by the legally recognised occupational associations, concerning conditions of production and of labour, the situation of the money market and variations in the standard of existence of the workers will, when co-ordinated and collated by the Ministry of Corporations, supply the criteria for the reconciliation of the interests of the various categories and

of the various classes among themselves, and also of their interests in comparison with the higher interests of production.

PIECE-RATES

Section 14.—When payment is calculated on a piece basis and is made for periods longer than a fortnight, accounts by the fortnight or the week are required.

Night work not carried out in regular shifts is paid for at a higher rate than day work. When payment for labour is made on a piece basis, the piece-rates must be determined in such a way that the hard worker with a normal capacity for work receives a minimum remuneration higher than the basic wage.

THE WEEKLY REST

Section 15.—The worker is entitled to a weekly rest coinciding with Sunday. Collective agreements will enforce this principle, taking account of existing legislation and of the technical requirements of the undertaking and, within the limits of these requirements, will take steps to secure that civil and religious holidays are respected in accordance with local tradition. Hours of work must be fully and strictly observed by the worker.

PAID HOLIDAYS

Section 16.—After one year's uninterrupted service a worker in a continuous process undertaking is entitled to an annual holiday with pay.

DISMISSAL INDEMNITIES

Section 17.—In continuous process undertakings the worker is entitled, in the event of his dismissal through no fault of his own, to an indemnity proportionate to his years of service. Such indemnity is also due in the event of the worker's death.

Section 18.—In continuous process undertakings the transfer of the undertaking does not cancel the labour agreement, and the staff of such an undertaking preserve their rights as against the new proprietor. Similarly, sickness on the part of the worker, which does not exceed a certain period, does not cancel the labour agreement. A worker may not be dismissed because he is called up for service in the army or in the militia.

Section 19.—Infringement of discipline and acts committed by workers calculated to disturb the normal working of the undertaking are punished, according to the gravity of the delict, by fines, suspension from work and, in serious cases, immediate dismissal without an indemnity. The cases in which the employer may inflict fines, suspend from work or dismiss on the spot without indemnity will be specified.

PROBATION PERIODS

Section 20.—When a worker is engaged, he must undergo a period of probation, during which period the agreement may be cancelled on either side, provided only that work actually done during the period in question must be paid for.

Section 21.—Collective labour agreements are extended, both as regards their benefits and the discipline which they impose, to home workers also. Special rules will be laid down by the State for securing conditions of cleanliness and hygiene for home work.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

Section 22.—The State is the only body which can ascertain and control the state of employment and unemployment among the workers, which is the final index of conditions of production and of labour.

PREFERENTIAL CLAUSES

Section 23.—The joint employment office is under the control of the corporate organisations. Employers are compelled to take workers registered with these offices, and are entitled to choose them from a list of persons registered, giving the preference to members of the Party, to Fascist trade unionists, and also to seniority of registration.

Section 24.—Workers' occupational associations are compelled to make a certain choice among the workers, with the object of improving continuously their technical capacity and their moral worth.

Section 25.—The corporate organisations see to the observance of legislation concerning the prevention of accidents, and labour regulations on the part of individuals affiliated to the federated associations.

WELFARE, SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND EDUCATION

Section 26.—Welfare is an important manifestation of the principle of collaboration. The employer and the worker must contribute proportionately to welfare charges. The State, through the medium of the corporate organisations and the occupational associations, will, so far as possible, co-ordinate and standardise the system and the various welfare institutions.

Section 27.—The Fascist State proposes: (1) to perfect the system of accident insurance; (2) to improve and extend maternity insurance; (3) to set up a system of insurance against occupational diseases and tuberculosis, as a first step towards a general system of insurance against all diseases; (4) to perfect the system of insurance against involuntary unemployment; (5) to adopt a special insurance system for endowing young workers.

Section 28.—It is for the workers' associations to protect the interests of their members in administrative and judicial matters connected with accident insurance and social insurance in general. In collective agreements, whenever technically possible, mutual benefit funds for sickness will be set up, fed by contributions from employers and workers, and administered by representatives of both, under the control of the corporate organisations.

Section 29.—It is both the right and the duty of the occupational associations to assist the persons they represent, whether members or non-members. The occupational associations must exercise their functions of assistance directly through the medium of their own organisations, and may not delegate them to other bodies or institutions, except for reasons of general interest which go beyond the scope of the interests of any single category of producers.

Section 30.—Education and instruction, in particular, the technical instruction of the persons they represent, whether members or non-members, is one of the chief duties of the occupational associations. They must collaborate in the work of the various National Workers' Spare Time Institutes, and in other educational schemes. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.*)

Report of the Ministry of Labour for the Year 1926

The Third Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour, dealing with the work of the Ministry during 1926, has been issued.

Industrial Relations (Conciliation and Arbitration).—The number of disputes dealt with by the Department either by conciliation or arbitration was only 137, as compared with 257 in the preceding year and an average of 210 during the five-year period 1921-25. The Report suggests that this abnormally small number of disputes dealt with may be partly due to the depletion of trade union funds, and to the general dislocation of trade, resulting from the general strike and from the prolonged dispute in the coal mining industry. Of the 137 disputes settled by conciliation or arbitration in 1926, the number referred to the Industrial Court for arbitration was 104 (including 43 Civil Service cases and 41 cases in the railway service); five were referred to single arbitrators, and four to *ad hoc* Boards of Arbitration; five were settled under Section 2 (1) of the Conciliation Act, 1896; while in 19 cases agreement was reached with the assistance of officers of the Ministry.

A full account is given of the Reports of (*i*) the Court of Investigation, appointed in September 1926 to inquire into the national coal trimming tariff; (*ii*) the Court of Investigation (appointed in 1925, but reporting in March 1926) into the Scottish shale oil industry; and (*iii*) the Court of Inquiry (appointed in 1925, under Part II of the Industrial Courts Act, but reporting in 1926) into the threatened dispute affecting railway shopmen on the London and North Eastern Railway (Great Central Section) and on the Cheshire Lines.

The Report refers to the effect of the general strike on the Joint Industrial Councils and on the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees. It is stated that these bodies "showed their value in providing a meeting ground for the discussion of the situation arising out of the strike, and still more in the spirit of reasonableness in which those discussions were almost invariably conducted. One committee has suspended its activities indefinitely, but in general it may be said that the effect of the strike has been definitely to strengthen the position of the Industrial Councils and their power for good. Some of those affected by the strike have added to their constitution provisions designed to ensure at least an interval for discussion and negotiation before a stoppage of work takes place; others which already had such machinery took the opportunity to overhaul or to extend it. On the whole there is every ground for satisfaction at the way in which the Whitley Council system has stood the severe test to which the general strike exposed it."

Employment.—The Report states that "the history of employment in 1926 is largely the history of the general strike and the coal dispute. At the end of January the proportion of insured workpeople unemployed was 11 per cent. This figure declined steadily to 9·1 per cent. at the end of April, when for the first time since the post-war slump, the number of those registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed was below a million. Iron and steel manufacture, shipbuilding, marine engineering, and the linen and jute trades, still showed high figures of unemployment;

but in most other industries there was improvement, and the steady general fall of the live register held out some definite prospect of a trade revival. The general strike badly disturbed the growing confidence, and subsequently the increasing shortage of fuel and the high price of imported coal which were due to the coal stoppage completely checked the improvement, unemployment rising to 14·6 per cent. by the end of June. From this period there was a slight improvement in the general position."

The numbers on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month from January 1923 to December 1926 have varied between a minimum of 981,877 (in April 1926) and a maximum of 1,639,776 (in June 1926). In thirty-three months out of this period of four years it was between 1,000,000 and 1,300,000, including a consecutive period of sixteen months from February 1924 to May 1925.

The following Table shows the numbers of vacancies notified to Employment Exchanges and of vacancies filled in each of the last four years :—

Year	Vacancies Notified	Vacancies Filled
1923	1,056,970	893,713
1924	1,345,394	1,143,742
1925	1,480,820	1,279,292
1926	1,246,967	1,082,917

The vacancies notified have been distributed between men, women, and juveniles in the following proportions, taking the average of the last four years : Men, 53 per cent. ; women, 28 per cent. ; juveniles, 19 per cent. The corresponding percentages for vacancies filled are : Men, 57 per cent.; women, 25 per cent. ; juveniles, 18 per cent.

The trade groups in which the largest number of vacancies for *men* were filled were : Construction of works ; general labourers ; building ; engineering ; and transport. This was the order in each of the years 1923, 1924 and 1925, and also on the average of the four years 1923-26 ; it was also the order in 1926, except that more vacancies were filled in the transport trades than in engineering in that year. These five groups accounted for nearly two-thirds of the total number of men's vacancies filled. Other trade groups with a large number of men's vacancies filled were : Shipbuilding ; manufacture of metals ; domestic service ; commercial occupations ; agriculture ; mining and quarrying ; cotton ; boots and shoes ; gas, water, etc.

The trade groups in which the largest number of *women's* vacancies were filled were : Domestic service (much the largest in all years) ; and thereafter dress ; cotton ; wool ; miscellaneous textiles ; commercial occupations ; and food, tobacco, drink, lodgings, etc. ; with smaller numbers in engineering and in agriculture. The relative order of these trade groups (except domestic service) varied considerably from year to year ; though in each year either the dress trades or the cotton trade came next after domestic service.

It is pointed out in the Report that " nearly all the figures for 1926 for both men and women show an appreciable reduction from the figures for

the preceding year, the reduction being due entirely to the much slower movement of trade and employment during the greater part of the year owing to the mining dispute. Now that the dispute is over, one of the most difficult parts of the unemployment problem is to restore the fluidity of labour. The industrial depression of the last six years has been most acutely felt in the heavy industries, which tend to be congregated near the coalfields. Although conditions in other parts of the country may have been substantially better, the chances of regular employment in other areas have not been sufficiently certain to induce men to leave their own area. The result has been that in many districts labour has been 'frozen' by unemployment, and has remained stationary. At the same time, in other areas where there is a greater variety of industrial development, considerably greater trade activity has obtained, and there have been, occasionally, temporary local shortages of certain classes of workpeople." The temporary local shortages in the cases of boys and girls in particular are, it is stated, likely to increase.

The changes in the distribution by industry and in the geographical distribution of the employed population in recent years were examined in the November and in the December issues of the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* (pages 415-17 and 435). The Report refers to this change in industrial development, and proceeds: "There is no doubt that the midlands and the south and west have generally enjoyed greater prosperity, even in the difficult times of the last year; and it is in those parts of the country that there has been occasional difficulty in obtaining labour of the right quality, although such labour clearly exists in other parts of the country. What needs to be done is to facilitate the transfer of labour from area to area, and to ensure that industrial development is not retarded through inability to obtain the right type of labour. This task cannot be handled efficiently except by a system of employment agencies covering the whole country".

During the year the Department has continued to devote attention to the machinery of the Employment Exchanges as placing agencies; and it is pointed out that the effectiveness of the Department's efforts in this regard must depend on the co-operation of employers in notifying vacancies.

The number of employers on the King's National Roll on 31st December 1926 was approximately 27,500; they were employing approximately 375,000 disabled ex-service men. A resolution was passed in both Houses of Parliament on 16th February 1926 to the effect "that, in the opinion of this House, it is the duty of the Government in all Government contracts to make provision for the employment to the fullest possible extent of disabled ex-service men, and to this end to confine such contracts, save in exceptional circumstances, to employers enrolled on the King's National Roll."

Other subjects dealt with under the heading of employment include Local Employment Committees; port labour committees; oversea settlement; admission of foreign workers; unemployment relief works, etc.

Unemployment Insurance.—The Report refers to the very severe strain thrown upon the Unemployment Insurance scheme during the year by the great increase in unemployment consequent on the general strike and

the dispute in the coal-mining industry. The scheme was the less able to bear the shock because it had suffered just before a serious loss of annual revenue. By the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1925 its revenue (from 4th January, 1926) was reduced by £6,800,000 per annum in respect of employers' and workers' contributions. By the Economy Act of 1926 the Unemployment Fund lost a further sum of £1,700,000 a year out of the former Exchequer contribution. The total effect of these financial changes, together with the increase in unemployment, was to send up the Fund's debt to the Treasury from £7,137,569 on the 30th April, 1926, to £22,640,000 on the 31st December.

In addition to the Economy Act, two other Acts affecting Unemployment Insurance were passed during the year, *viz.*, the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1926, and the Unemployment Insurance (Northern Ireland Agreement) Act, 1926.

Reference is made in the Report to the settlement of questions of claims to unemployment benefit arising out of the general strike and out of the coal-mining dispute. In the former case claims were disallowed either on the ground that the claimants were not unable to obtain suitable employment, or on the ground that they had left their employment voluntarily without just cause. The Umpire took the view that the general strike was due to a dispute between His Majesty's Government and the Trades Union Congress General Council, and not between employers and employed, and that it was not, therefore, a trade dispute within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

The rest of the section deals with the administration of unemployment insurance under various headings. Reference is made to the Report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Agricultural Unemployment Insurance. While the Committee was unanimous in recommending that agriculture should not be brought within the scope of the general scheme, and that no scheme was desirable for agriculture in Scotland, it recommended by a majority (six to five) that a special scheme should be set up for England and Wales. It was announced by the Minister of Agriculture in the House of Commons on 22nd November 1926, that the Government did not see its way to adopt the recommendations of the majority report of the Committee.

An appendix to this section gives the substance of certain specially important decisions of the Umpire.

Juveniles.—The numbers of boys and of girls insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain at July 1926, excluding those insured under the special schemes for the banking and for the insurance industries, were 564,000 boys and 401,000 girls; showing a decrease of 1,000 in the boys but an increase of 6,000 in the girls as compared with July 1925. In general during 1926 the supply of juvenile labour was sufficient to meet the demand in all areas, but some districts in which employment for juveniles was good have reported during the year a shortage of suitable boys to fill better-class vacancies, and there has apparently been some reluctance on the part of boys, especially in London, to take jobs as errand or messenger boys and other jobs with few or no prospects of permanent employment. As regards girls, the

supply for better-class vacancies in the dress trades, especially in London, has not been equal to the demand.

The industries in which the greatest numbers of insured boys were employed continued to be the distributive trades, coal mining, building, engineering (including iron and steel founding), cotton and printing (including publishing and bookbinding), in that order. For insured girls the chief industries continued to be the distributive trades, cotton, tailoring, dress and mantle making, and woollen and worsted.

In many areas juvenile unemployment was markedly severe during the year. At August 1926, Swansea, Stoke-on-Trent, Bolton, Sheffield and Glasgow, showed the highest percentages of insured boys unemployed; and Stock-on-Trent, Dundee, Swansea, Newcastle and Bolton the highest percentages of girls unemployed. The industries in which the highest percentages of insured boys were unemployed in that month were shipbuilding, cotton, engineering and the distributive trades (in that order); while the percentages of insured girls unemployed were highest in the cotton, hosiery, woollen and worsted, and tailoring trades (in that order).

This section also contains a summary of (*i*) the Report of the Enquiry into unemployment among boys and girls in 1925; and (*ii*) Part I of the Report of the Committee on Education and Industry (England and Wales). Other matters dealt with in this section are the arrangements for giving advice to boys and girls, and for placing them in employment; and the juvenile unemployment centres.

Trade Boards.—The two grocery Trade Boards were dissolved during the year, as a result of an investigation into the wages and conditions of employment in that trade carried out in 1925. As a result of similar investigations into (*i*) the light refreshment and dining-room section of the catering trade, (*ii*) the meat distributive trade, and (*iii*) the drapery and allied distributive trades, the Minister decided that, in all the circumstances, the conditions did not justify at the present time the application of the Trade Boards Acts to those trades.

Other matters in connection with the administration of the Trade Boards Acts dealt with in this section are:—description of trades to which the Acts apply; constitution of Trade Boards and of district trade committees; Trade Board minimum rates; proceedings of Trade Boards; inspection and enforcement, etc.

International Labour.—This section gives an account of the proceedings at the eighth and at the ninth sessions of the International Labour Conference, held at Geneva in May and June, 1926; also of the Conference of Ministers of Labour, on the subject of the Washington Hours Convention, held in London in March, 1926.

Representatives of the Ministry attended the four sessions of the governing body of the International Labour Office, and the third international conference of labour statisticians, held during the year. Five draft conventions have been ratified during the year, three relating to employment at sea, and two relating to workmen's compensation.

Training Scheme for Young Unemployed Men.—This scheme provides a short course of manual or agricultural training, not exceeding 26 weeks' duration, for young men who are unemployed and who, owing to trade

depression, have had no opportunity of learning a skilled trade or even of acquiring a knowledge of the use of tools. The intention of the scheme is to improve the general employability of the men and to accustom them to the use of tools and to regular hours and discipline, and, in the case of intending migrants, to give some experience of agricultural work, the handling and care of live stock, ploughing, milking, the use and repair of farm implements, and general farm work. The existing centres provide accommodation for training 1,200 men at a time.

The following statement shows the progress made from the commencement up to December, 1926 :—

	Placed in training	In training 31st December, 1926	Passed out of training
Non-residential centres—			
Birmingham	1,458	356	1,102
Wallsend	980	394	586
Residential centres—			
Claydon:			
Oversea	399	105	294
Handymen	315	70	245
Brandon:			
Oversea	366	146	220
Handymen	61	43	18

It is stated in the Report that the further experience gained under this scheme during 1926 shows that it is possible, by a short course of intensive training, so to improve the employability of young men lacking both skill and experience, as to give them a good prospect of remunerative employment either in this country or in the Dominions. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, May 1927.*)

Indian Employees and Indian Firms in the Dutch East Indies

We have received from the Director of the Labour Office, Batavia, a report on the labour conditions of Bombay shop-assistants. The report deals with the conditions of labour of salesmen and servants in shops in the Dutch East Indies which are owned and managed by Indians.

The following are the conclusions drawn in the report :—

1. In the so-called Bombay-shops, the relations between the managers and the employees are quite different to the conditions in western trades.

Especially in larger concerns, we may speak of a great family consisting of persons united through religion, solidarity of caste, usages of race and social position, and doing their utmost to develop the concern they serve.

2. The fact that they profess the Hindoo religion, worship together at home, consecrate the current account books, and, generally speaking, cling to the habits of the parental home, renders their relations quite exceptional, namely, relations among a group of persons who, living together under one roof, are trying to keep up the patriarchal family life in foreign parts, as far as this is possible.

3. Although the written agreements,* from a Western point of view, appear very unsatisfactory to us, it is nevertheless true that, on account of the hard struggle of life in British India, and the trying situations of their large families resulting from economical and religious causes, the shop-assistants in question themselves are glad to accept these agreements as an opportunity to work, it is true, abroad, but at any rate among their own race and class, absolutely in their own environment, under conditions which enable them to assist their families every month, and moreover, if their way of living in this country is thrifty, to return after two and a half years with an amount of money sufficient for a stay of several months among their relatives.

4. In many cases, the employees are not quite free to move as they please out of working hours, a restriction we cannot tolerate and which is not permitted by the law of this country; but we are bound to admit that the relation between the manager and the employees explains it to a certain extent. The former feels that he is morally obliged to prevent his personnel from harming their morality and their health, in so far as they might abuse their liberty in their off time; it should be borne in mind that these men who left their wives at home in so far as they are married are exposed to strong temptation.

5. Paying and calculating the wages at a rate far below the present value of the rupee is contrary to the written agreement, which establishes salaries to be paid in rupees—British Indian currency.

6. The labour conditions of the personnel of the larger firms, which, nearly without exception, is sent from Sindh and Bombay and entered there into an agreement, are satisfactory. Should difficulties arise between the personnel and the managers, the latter are in position to abuse the power given to them by the agreement; the condition of those assistants who stay in Java without a claim to passage money to British India, and who are obliged to look for employment in the smaller Bombay-shops, which do not guarantee them much legal security if any, is decidedly unfavourable. As a rule, however, these persons are the less desirable ones, dismissed elsewhere on account of bad behaviour, etc.

7. Working-time does not exceed ten hours a day, the work is light and consists mainly of mere selling in the store, for which the personnel is quite sufficient, on account of the small space in the store.

8. The wages are not high, but they offer a sufficient livelihood on account of the level of wages at home and the additional items of free board and lodging, free passages, free admission, an eventual bonus, and eventual presents.

9. Should, however, the clause concerning the right to free passage from and to Hyderabad have been omitted from a written agreement entered into by a Bombay firm and a shop-assistant, we must consider it an improper labour contract not providing for a sufficient means of living; admitting those who entered into such a contract to the Dutch East Indies is not justified.

10. On account of the conditions mentioned in the second conclusion, conflicts in connection with the labour contract did not occur often, but it cannot be denied that in such cases the employees in question will not find it easy to assert their rights to the full in Court.

* For a copy of the agreement, see page 154 of the October 1924 issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

Night Work of Women in Japan

It will be remembered that the prohibition by law of the night work of women in Japan will not be enforced until 1st July 1929.

There are, however, a number of large factories in which night work of women has already been abolished, without regard to the delay allowed by the Factory Act (Amendment) Act. A recent issue of the *Sangyo Fukuri* (" Industrial Welfare "), published by the Industrial Welfare Association of the Bureau of Social Affairs, says :

The Oji factory of the Oriental Spinning Company (*Toyo Boseki Kaisha*) voluntarily abolished the night work of women as from August 1925. The Company naturally had to make a sacrifice, in the form of a decrease in its production ; but it gained a gratifying result in another direction.

Since the abolition of night work, the health of the operatives has been greatly improved, and the pale, swollen faces called " spinning factory colour " have entirely disappeared from the factory. While the percentage of sickness and the turnover of operatives has decreased, that of regular attendance and the number of spindles handled by each operative has increased ; further, the quality of the products has greatly improved.

Another result of the abolition of night work is shown in the following table, which indicates an appreciable decrease in the percentage of absence of workers :—

Year and month	Male Operatives	Female operatives	
		Living out	Dormitory
1923 : Average of the first 6 months	3·99	7·62	3·23
June	4·98	6·74	3·39
July	5·59	10·26	3·64
August	4·65	9·38	3·80
1926 · Average of the first 6 months	2·30	5·42	2·26
June	1·72	4·16	1·37
July	2·18	5·33	1·49
August	3·18	4·93	1·84

The working hours of the operatives after the abolition of night work were fixed as follows :

First shift.—Commences work at 5 a.m. ; interval for breakfast, from 7-30 to 8 a.m. ; finishes work at 2 p.m.

Second shift.—Commences work at 2 p.m. interval for dinner, from 7-30 to 8 p.m. ; finishes work at 11 p.m. (*From " Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 9, 1927.*)

Legislation on Indian Mines

A Bill to further amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th March 1927. The statement of objects and reasons, the text of the Bill and notes on the clauses of the Bill are printed below :—

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The weekly hours of work for persons employed in mines are limited to 60 in the case of persons working above ground and to 54 in the case of persons working below ground. But there is no statutory limit on the daily hours of work, so that, for example, there is nothing to prevent a miner from being employed for 17 or 18 hours in one day. During the debates in the Legislative Assembly on the Mines Bill (which afterwards passed into law as the Mines Act, 1923) a proposal was made to place a direct limitation on the daily hours of work. The proposal was rejected, but the Honourable Sir Charles Innes on behalf of Government promised to examine, in consultation with Local Governments, the question of introducing a compulsory system of shifts in mines. The main part of the present Bill is the outcome of this examination.

2. While the primary object of the Bill is the imposition of a limitation on the daily hours of work, it must not be supposed that hours of work in mines are generally excessive. It is probably the case that in few mines do the miners maintain a standard of more than 8 hours' work daily on the average ; and it is not anticipated that the Bill, if passed, will have any appreciable effect in reducing hours of work. The main advantages which the Bill is designed to secure are of a different character. The present system (or lack of system) in many mines encourages miners to spend long hours underground and makes satisfactory supervision difficult. It tends to increase the number of accidents in several ways, and it diminishes the potential efficiency of the Indian miner. The shift system has been introduced with success in a number of mines, and it would probably be introduced more generally without compulsion were it not for the danger that labour may gravitate to those mines where restrictions are absent. That danger will disappear when regularity in working hours is made the general rule, and it is believed that the system now proposed will be to the general advantage both of the mine-owner and the miner.

3. There is no suggestion from any quarter that a limitation should be imposed on the hours within which work may be carried on in a mine, and it is intended that mine-owners should be at liberty to carry on work for the whole 24 hours. If the mine-owner is willing to restrict the total hours of work to the limit that may be prescribed for the individual worker, the declaration beforehand of the hours within which the mine is to be worked is sufficient to enable control to be exercised over working hours. But when a mine-owner desires that the mine should be worked for a longer period than the daily limit prescribed for the individual worker, the enforcement of a system of shifts is essential if control has to be maintained. Further, the Government of India are satisfied that, if effective

control is to be exercised, it is necessary that the shifts should be so arranged that they do not overlap. In other words, if the workmen of any particular class, *e.g.*, coal cutters, are to be divided into a number of shifts, not more than one such shift should be employed in the mine at the same time.

4. If this is accepted, it means that there are only two-shift systems which can reasonably be considered. These are the two-shift system in which the limit of each shift is 12 hours and the three-shift system in which the limit is 8 hours. The three-shift system is already in force in a few mines in India, but the Government of India consider that it is, at present at any rate, out of the question to enforce an 8 hours' day in Indian mines. They have therefore reached the conclusion that it is impracticable at present to attempt to fix a lower limit for the daily hours of work than 12. Under the Bill, if passed, mine-owners will have the option of (1) limiting the hours of working over the mine as a whole to 12 daily, and (2) introducing a system of shifts, not exceeding 12 hours each, so arranged that the hours under two shifts of the same type of worker do not overlap. The detailed provisions by which this end is to be secured are explained in the Notes on Clauses, where an explanation is also given of clause 7 which is unconnected with the main part of the Bill.

TEXT OF THE BILL

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Indian Mines Act, 1923, for certain purposes ; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. *Short Title and Commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Mines (Amendment) Act, 192 .

(2) It shall come into force on the 1st day of April 1930.

2. *Amendment of section 23, Act IV of 1923.*—In section 23 of the Indian Mines Act, 1923 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), after clause (*c*) the following clause shall be inserted, namely :—

"(*d*) for more than twelve hours in any consecutive period of twenty-four hours."

3. *Insertion of new sections 23A, 23B and 23C in Act IV of 1923.*—After section 23 of the said Act the following sections shall be inserted, namely :—

"23A. *Limitation of working hours.*—Work shall not be carried on in any mine for a period exceeding twelve hours in any consecutive period of twenty-four hours except by a system of shifts so arranged that not more than one-shift of persons employed in work of the same kind shall be at work in the mine at the same time.

23B. *Special provision for change of shifts.*—Where work is carried on by a system of shifts, the manager of the mine may, notwithstanding anything contained in clause (*d*) of section 23, not more than once in every seven days, permit persons who have been employed on a shift of a duration not exceeding eight hours to return to work after an interval of not less than four hours on another complete shift of a duration not exceeding eight hours and permit persons who have been employed on a shift of a duration not exceeding twelve hours to return

to work after an interval of not less than six hours for another complete shift of a duration not exceeding twelve hours.

23C. *Notices regarding hours of work.*—(1) The manager of every mine shall cause to be posted outside the office of the mine a notice in the prescribed form stating the time of the commencement and of the end of work at the mine and, if it is proposed to work by a system of shifts, the time of the commencement and of the end of work for each shift. A copy of each such notice shall be sent to the Chief Inspector, if he so requires.

(2) In the case of a mine at which mining operations commence after the 7th day of April 1930 the notice referred to in sub-section (1) shall be posted not less than seven days before the commencement of work.

(3) Where it is proposed to make any alteration in the time fixed for the commencement or for the end of work in the mine generally or for any shift, an amended notice in the prescribed form shall be posted outside the office of the mine not less than seven days before the change is made, and a copy of such notice shall be sent to the Chief Inspector not less than seven days before such change, if he so requires or if the original notice was sent to him."

4. *Amendment of sections 24 and 25, Act IV of 1923.*—In sections 24 and 25 of the said Act, after the word and figures " section 23 " the words, figures and letter " or section 23A " shall be inserted.

5. *Insertion of new section 25A in Act IV of 1923.*—After section 25 of the said Act the following section shall be inserted, namely :—

" 25A. *Employment in different mines.*—Save in such circumstances as may be prescribed, no person shall employ or permit to be employed in a mine any person whom he knows or has reason to believe to have already been employed in any other mine during the preceding twelve hours."

6. *Amendment of section 28, Act IV of 1923.*—(1) Section 28 of the said Act shall be re-numbered as sub-section (1) of section 28, and to that sub-section after the word " employments " the following shall be added, namely :—

" and, where work is carried on by a system of shifts, of the shift in which each such person works."

(2) To the same section the following sub-section shall be added, namely :—

" (2) No person shall be employed in a mine until the particulars required by sub-section (1) have been recorded in the register in respect of such person, and no person shall be employed except during the hours of work specified for him in the register."

7. *Amendment of section 31, Act IV of 1923.*—In section 31 of the said Act,—

(*a*) in sub-section (3) the words " or rule," in both places where they occur, the words " in the case of a regulation," and the words " and in the case of a rule to every Mining Board constituted in the province " shall be omitted ; and

(*b*) after sub-section (3) the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :—

"3A. No rule shall be made unless the draft thereof has been referred to every Mining Board constituted in the province for which it is proposed to make the rule, and unless each such Board has had a reasonable opportunity of reporting as to the expediency of making the same and as to the suitability of its provisions."

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1.—It is considered desirable that, even after the Bill is passed, mine-owners should have a period of grace in which to make the adjustment that will be necessary in many mines. It is therefore proposed that the Bill should not be brought into operation until 1st April 1930.

Clause 2.—The amendment proposed makes it unlawful to employ any person for more than 12 hours in any consecutive 24 hours.

Clause 3.—The new section 23A enforces the introduction of shifts in all mines working for more than 12 hours out of the 24. Section 23B is designed to allow for a periodical change of shifts, necessary wherever the workers are not to be compelled to work within the same hours (*e.g.*, night hours) for indefinite periods. Section 23C provides for the notices necessary to enable the inspecting staff to enforce the Act.

Clause 4.—Section 24 of the main Act exempts the supervising staff from the provisions limiting hours of work and section 25 enables the manager to employ labour in contravention of these provisions in the case of an emergency on work necessary to protect the safety of the mine or the workers in it. This clause is rendered necessary by the introduction of the new section 23A.

Clause 5.—This provision is required to prevent the evasion of the limitations on hours of work which would be possible if double employment were permitted.

Clause 6.—Section 28 of the main Act provides for the maintenance of a register of workers and their hours of work. The first amendment to it is consequential on the introduction of the shift system: the second is necessary for the enforcement of the restriction on daily hours; and, coupled with the new section 23C, gives the inspecting staff what is required to enable them to ascertain whether the law is being observed or not.

Clause 7.—Under the existing law, all regulations and rules have to be referred to Mining Boards before they are published for criticism. It has been brought to the notice of Government that in the case of rules, which are made by Local Governments, this provision leads in some cases to unnecessary delay, and that Mining Boards may, on occasion, more suitably be consulted after criticisms have been received from the general public. The proposed amendment will give Local Governments the power to consult Mining Boards at the stage which appears best to them. No change is proposed in the law relating to regulations, which are framed by the Government of India.

House Rents in Ahmedabad

I. METHOD OF ENQUIRY

On page 67 of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1926 an article on "Ahmedabad Mill Chawls" was published. In that article reference was made to a general house-rent enquiry for Ahmedabad. This enquiry was conducted by the Investigators of the Labour Office during 1926. Data were collected both for the working and the middle classes. The working class includes manual labourers such as mill-workers. The term "middle class" mainly denotes clerks. Professional men with uncertain incomes, lawyers, traders, doctors and the like are not included nor are the upper classes.

Information was collected by personal visits to the tenements sampled. On a form specially drawn up for the purpose, the Ward No., the name of the street, the name and address of the owner, the number of rooms, their dimensions, the rent in 1926 and the data regarding ventilation, sanitation, water-supply, etc., were noted down. The method of sampling adopted was as follows. It was ascertained from the Ahmedabad Municipality that properties were numbered on the basis of tenements and not of houses. That is to say, if there were five tenements within a single building a separate number was given by the Municipality to each of the five tenements and not one number to the whole house. For the purposes of the present enquiry, a sample of three per cent. was decided upon. Three out of every hundred tenements were visited. Tenements bearing numbers 33, 66, 99, 133, 166, 199, 233 and so on were studied. If the 33rd, 66th or the 99th tenement happened to be a temple or a shop or belonged to traders, professional men or the upper class or was unoccupied it was altogether omitted without any attempt to collect data from an adjoining working-class or middle-class tenement in place of it. If, however, the tenement was occupied by a working-class or middle-class person and if information was refused by him, information was collected from another tenement of the type required within the previous thirty-two tenements. It may, however, be pointed out that such refusals were few in number.

At the time of tabulating the data collected, tenements let out by employers to workmen at concession rents were omitted and cases where owners themselves occupied the premises were also omitted because in such instances only estimates of rent were available and the object of the enquiry was to find out the actual rent paid by tenants. As a result of the exclusion of such tenements the final number of tenements for which data could be tabulated is somewhat low but the results may be said to be reliable as a uniform method of sampling was adhered to throughout.

The number of tenements visited in each ward and the number of tenements for which data were finally tabulated are shown below :—

Sampled Tenements

Wards	Total number of tenements	Number visited, *i.e.*, 3 per 100 tenements	Number for which data were not collected (temples, shops, vacant tenements, etc.)
Khadia	13,245	400	281
Kalupur	16,771	503	372
Dariapur	10,814	324	153
Shahpur	12,015	363	181
Raikhad	5,679	175	93
Jamalpur	12,149	362	212
Pura 1	5,661	192	89
Shahibagh	1,456	50	21
Railwaypura	3,651	116	93
Asarwa	3,255	144	40
Pura 4	6,122	186	70
Saraspur	3,204	97	40
Gomtipur	3,279	136	37
Rajpur Hirpur	2,256	68	24
Behrampur	638	21	12
Ellis Bridge	996	31	23
All Wards	101,191	3,168	1,741

Wards	Working Class tenements		Middle Class tenements	
	Number of tenements let out at concession rents or occupied by owners	Tabulated	Owner occupied	Tabulated
Khadia	17	37	32	33
Kalupur	29	50	18	34
Dariapur	33	115	15	8
Shahpur	45	112	14	11
Raikhad	28	42	5	7
Jamalpur	36	86	15	13
Pura 1	32	70	1	
Shahibagh	21	8		
Railwaypura	20	2	1	
Asarwa	50	51		3
Pura 4	38	76		2
Saraspur	12	43	2	
Gomtipur	25	74		
Rajpur Hirpur	16	28		
Behrampur	6	3		
Ellis Bridge	5	2		1
All Wards	413	799	103	112

It will be seen from the above table that in some wards, especially Pura 1, Asarwa and Gomtipur, the number of tenements visited is greater than the number that ought to have been visited according to the proportion of 3 per 100 tenements in column 2 of the above table. This is due to the comparatively large number of tenements in those wards either unnumbered or given sub-numbers only which were not included in the census figures. When there were no Municipal numbers the Investigators sampled the usual proportion after ascertaining the total number of such tenements. Where there were sub-numbers, that is to say, where there were for example 60 tenements under the same number as say 300/1, 300/2, up to 300/60 the Investigators adopted the same procedure and collected data from one in every thirty-three of those tenements.

The number of tenements for which data were not collected appears high because of the presence of shops, shopkeepers, professional men, etc.

Of 413 working class tenements omitted from tabulation as belonging to employers or as occupied by owners themselves nearly 300 were in the latter class. In the case of the middle classes the number of tenements owned by the occupiers was nearly equal to the number of tenements where the occupiers were tenants.

II. RESULTS OF THE ENQUIRY

A. Working Class Tenements

Data for 799 working class tenements were tabulated. The following table shows the number of tenements according to the number of rooms :—

Rooms	Tenements	Percentage to total
One	635	79·5
Two	129	16·2
Three	25	3·1
Four	5	0·6
Five	5	0·6
	799	100

1. One-roomed tenements

Nearly 80 per cent. of the working class tenements are one-roomed. The following table gives by wards (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average dimensions per tenement in cubic feet, and (3) the average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.

Working Class one-roomed tenements, 1926

Wards	Number of tenements	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926
			Rs. a. p.
Khadia	22	1,665	4 10 1
Kalupur	35	1,939 *	5 1 5
Dariapur	82	1,982	4 14 4
Shahpur	80	1,685	4 1 11
Raikhad	30	945	4 12 7
Jamalpur	65	1,140	4 4 7
Pura I	66	1,711	4 10 7
Asarwa	48	960	4 10 7
Pura 4	75	1,338	4 8 2
Saraspur	26	1,204	3 10 2
Gomtipur	63	1,683	3 12 8
Rajpur Hirpur	28	2,277	4 3 7
Others	15		
All wards	635	1,544 *	4 6 1

In the above table no figures are shown against "Others" because that item consists of 8 tenements in Shahibagh, 3 in Behrampur and 2 each in Railwaypura and Ellis Bridge and a combined average for all these wards situated far away from each other would be meaningless. Separate averages are not given because the number sampled is small.

The average space per tenement is very low in Raikhad and Asarwa. It is highest in Rajpur Hirpur. The average cubic area per tenement for all wards combined is 1544 feet.

Apart from considerations of the space available, the average monthly rent is highest in Kalupur and lowest in Saraspur. The average monthly rent per tenement for all wards combined is Rs. 4-6-1.

In arriving at the final averages for all wards no attempt has been made to weight the ward averages according to the proportion borne by one-roomed tenements in each ward to the total number of one-roomed tenements in Ahmedabad as the method of sampling followed in the present enquiry has given to each ward the importance due to it by taking into consideration the exact number of tenements—neither more nor less—warranted by its size. This remark applies to all the final averages worked out in the present enquiry.

2. *Two and more roomed tenements*

Two, three, four and five-roomed tenements number 164 in all. The following table gives (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average dimensions per tenement in cubic feet, and (3) the average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 for each ward.

* Average for one tenement less.

Working Class two and more roomed tenements, 1926

Tenements		Khadia	Kalupur	Dariapur	Shahpur	Raikhad	Jamalpur	Saraspur	Gomtipur	Others	All Wards
Two-roomed.	Number of two-roomed tenements.	11	9	28	26	10	19	13	8	5	129
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	2,817	3,290	3,351	2,975	1,698	2,358	2,501	2,577	..	2,764
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 7 8 6	Rs. a. p. 6 2 2	Rs. a. p. 6 15 2	Rs. a. p. 5 5 10	Rs. a. p. 6 1 10	Rs. a. p. 5 14 1	Rs. a. p. 5 1 10	Rs. a. p. 4 8 2	..	Rs. a. p. 6 0 4
Three-roomed.	Number of three-roomed tenements.	1	5	3	5	1	2	2	3	3	25
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	5,104	4,321	3,803	3,656	1,680	3,026	2,898	3,541	..	4,219
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 15 0 0	Rs. a. p. 5 7 6	Rs. a. p. 7 4 5	Rs. a. p. 6 14 8	Rs. a. p. 6 0 0	Rs. a. p. 9 6 8	Rs. a. p. 7 0 0	Rs. a. p. 4 12 8	..	Rs. a. p. 7 0 2
Four-roomed.	Number of four-roomed tenements.	1	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	5
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	12,288	5,400	..	9,600	..	..	5,183	..	..	7,531
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 20 0 0	Rs. a. p. 12 0 0	..	Rs. a. p. 5 4 0	..	..	Rs. a. p. 6 8 0	..	..	Rs. a. p. 10 0 10
Five-roomed.	Number of five-roomed tenements.	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	5
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	4,040*	..	7,536	..	1,984	..	..	..	..	5,274*
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.	Rs. a. p. 10 8 0	..	Rs. a. p. 8 13 4	..	Rs. a. p. 13 5 4	..	..	..	..	Rs. a. p. 10 6 5

* Average for one tenement less.

Kalupur stands first in regard to the size of tenements and Raikhad stands last. The average measurement per tenement for all wards is 3195 cubic feet.

The average rent for Khadia is Rs. 9-4-1. This high figure is not surprising in view of the fact that Khadia is pre-eminently a middle class locality. The highest rent paid by a working class family in Ahmedabad, *viz.*, Rs. 20 per mensem, was found in this ward. The average rent for Gomtipur is only Rs. 4-9-5. The average rent for all wards works out at Rs. 6-6-10.

3. *Frequency of Dimensions*

A frequency table showing the cubic measurement of working class tenements is given below. The most common type of working class one-roomed tenement falls in the group 1000—1500 cubic feet. The average for one-roomed tenements is 1544 cubic feet. Among two and more roomed tenements the most common type is of 2000—2500 cubic feet. The average for two and more roomed tenements is 3195 cubic feet.

Frequency of Dimensions

(Working Class)

Measurement in cubic feet	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	All tenements
Below 500 ..	64	1	..	..	..	65
500 and „ 1,000 ..	147	11	..	..	..	158
1,000 „ „ 1,500 ..	162	19	1	..	..	182
1,500 „ „ 2,000 ..	108	16	1	..	1	126
2,000 „ „ 2,500 ..	62	22	3	..	..	87
2,500 „ „ 3,000 ..	24	14	..	..	..	38
3,000 „ „ 3,500 ..	37	10	4	..	..	51
3,500 „ „ 4,000 ..	12	11	5	..	..	28
4,000 „ „ 4,500 ..	10	6	3	1	1	21
4,500 „ „ 5,000 ..	2	5	1	..	..	8
5,000 „ „ 5,500 ..	1	2	2	1	..	6
5,500 „ „ 6,000 ..	1	5	1	..	..	7
6,000 „ „ 6,500 ..	2	4	1	1	..	8
6,500 „ „ 7,000 ..	..	1	..	..	1	2
7,000 „ „ 7,500 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7,500 „ „ 8,000 ..	..	2	..	..	..	2
8,000 „ „ 8,500 ..	1	..	2	..	1	4
8,500 „ „ 9,000 ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
9,000 „ „ 9,500 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9,500 „ „ 10,000 ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
10,000 „ „ 10,500 ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
10,500 „ over	..	..	..	1 *	..	1
Total ..	634†	129	25	5	4 ‡	797 ‡

* 12,288 cubic feet † One tenement less; ‡ Two tenements less.

4. *Frequency of Rents*

A frequency table showing the rents paid by the working class during 1926 is given below :—

Frequency of Rents

(Working Class)

1926

Monthly rent in Rupees	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	All tenements
1 and below 2 ..	13	1	..	..	..	14
2 „ „ 3 ..	60	3	..	..	..	63
3 „ „ 4 ..	126	11	2	..	..	139
4 „ „ 5 ..	171	22	3	..	..	196
5 „ „ 6 ..	168	29	4	1	..	202
6 „ „ 7 ..	70	21	7	1	1	100
7 „ „ 8 ..	12	15	1	1	..	29
8 „ „ 9 ..	8	12	2	..	1	23
9 „ „ 10 ..	2	4	1	..	..	7
10 „ „ 11 ..	4	7	2	..	..	13
11 „ „ 12 ..	1	2	2	..	1	6
12 „ „ 13 ..	..	2	..	1	1	4
13 „ „ 14 ..	..	..	..	..	1	1
14 „ „ 15 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 „ „ 16 ..	..	..	1	..	..	1
16 „ over ..	..	..	..	1 *	..	1
Total ..	635	129	25	5	5	799

* Rs. 20.

B. *Middle Class Tenements*

Data for 112 middle class tenements were tabulated. The following table shows the number of tenements according to the number of rooms :—

Rooms	Tenements	Percentage to total
One ..	39	34·8
Two ..	46	41·1
Three ..	20	17·8
Four ..	5	4·5
Five ..	1	0·9
Nine ..	1	0·9
Total ..	112	100

One and two-roomed tenements are the frequently recurring types. One tenement with nine rooms occupied by a Municipal teacher was found in Jamalpur.

1. *One-roomed tenements*

The following table gives by wards (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average dimensions per tenement in cubic feet and (3) the average monthly rent per middle class one-roomed tenement in 1926.

Middle class one-roomed tenements, 1926

Wards	Number of tenements	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926
			Rs. a. p.
Khadia	7	3,050	6 4 8
Kalupur	12	1,794	5 3 11
Dariapur	4	4,060	4 12 0
Shahpur	3	2,944	6 3 1
Raikhad	5	1,635	5 3 2
Jamalpur	3	2,059	6 5 4
Others	5 *		
All wards ..	39	2,298	5 9 8

In the above table averages for even small numbers of tenements have been given because these numbers although small in themselves are not altogether unimportant considering the proportion they bear to the total number of tenements of which they form part.

The cubic space per tenement is highest in Dariapur and lowest in Raikhad. The average for all wards is 2298 cubic feet.

The rent is low in Dariapur and high in Khadia and Jamalpur. The average rent for all wards is Rs. 5-9-8.

2. *Two and more roomed tenements*

Middle class two and more roomed tenements tabulated numbered 73 in all. The following table gives by wards (1) the number of tenements, (2) the average measurement per tenement in cubic feet and (3) the average monthly rent per tenement in 1926.

The cubic space per tenement is highest in Shahpur and lowest in Raikhad. The average measurement per tenement for all wards is 3739 cubic feet.

One of the tenements in Raikhad is four-roomed. This explains the high average rent for that ward. Barring Raikhad the average rent is high in Khadia and Jamalpur and low in Shahpur. The average rent per tenement for all wards is Rs. 7-5-9.

* Made up of 2 in Asarwa, 2 in Pura 4, and 1 in Ellis Bridge.

Middle Class two and more roomed tenements, 1926

Tenements		Khadia	Kalupur	Dariapur	Shahpur	Raikhad	Jamalpur	Others *	All wards
Two-roomed	Number of two-roomed tenements ..	14	15	2	6	1	7	1	46
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	3,187	3,354	2,620	5,261	1,900	3,310	..	3,490
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 ..	Rs. a. p. 6 2 3	Rs. a. p. 6 5 9	Rs. a. p. 8 6 8	Rs. a. p. 7 3 8	Rs. a. p. 7 0 0	Rs. a. p. 7 11 5	..	Rs. a. p. 6 11 0
Three-roomed	Number of three-roomed tenements. ..	7	7	2	2	..	2	..	20
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	4,761	3,306	3,157	2,514	..	2,907	..	3,681
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 ..	Rs. a. p. 7 5 3	Rs. a. p. 9 0 0	Rs. a. p. 4 9 4	Rs. a. p. 3 12 8	..	Rs. a. p. 5 1 8	..	Rs. a. p. 7 1 0
Four-roomed	Number of four-roomed tenements ..	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	5
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	4,932	..	..	..	3,710	..	..	4,688
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 ..	Rs. a. p. 11 1 4	..	..	..	Rs. a. p. 12 0 0	..	..	Rs. a. p. 11 4 3
Five-roomed	Number of five-roomed tenements. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	5,376	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,376
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 ..	Rs. a. p. 15 6 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	Rs. a. p. 15 6 0
Nine-roomed	Number of nine-roomed tenements ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
	Average measurement per tenement in cubic feet.	..	..	..	..	..	9,970	..	9,970
	Average monthly rent per tenement in 1926 ..	..	..	..	..	..	Rs. a. p. 16 10 8	..	Rs. a. p. 16 10 8

* Asarwa.

3. *Frequency of Dimensions*

A frequency table showing the space available in cubic feet in middle class tenements is given below. The most common type of middle class one-roomed tenement measures from 1000-2000 cubic feet, the arithmetic average for the tenements being 2298 cubic feet. Of two and more roomed tenements the most prevalent type measures from 1500-2000 cubic feet although tenements up to 4000 cubic feet are also common. The arithmetic mean for all two and more roomed tenements is 3739 cubic feet.

Frequency of Dimensions

(Middle Class)

Measurement in cubic feet	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	Nine-roomed tenements	All tenements
Below 500 ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
500 and below 1,000 ..	4	..	1	..	..	..	5
1,000 „ „ 1,500 ..	7	2	..	..	..	..	9
1,500 „ „ 2,000 ..	7	11	2	..	..	..	20
2,000 „ „ 2,500 ..	4	5	..	1	..	..	10
2,500 „ „ 3,000 ..	6	2	4	1	..	..	13
3,000 „ „ 3,500 ..	3	5	3	..	..	..	11
3,500 „ „ 4,000 ..	3	6	3	1	..	..	13
4,000 „ „ 4,500 ..	2	2	3	..	..	..	7
4,500 „ „ 5,000 ..	1	6	1	..	..	..	8
5,000 „ „ 5,500 ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
5,500 „ „ 6,000 ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
6,000 „ „ 6,500 ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
6,500 „ „ 7,000 ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
7,000 „ „ 7,500 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7,500 „ „ 8,000 ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
8,000 „ „ 8,500 ..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
8,500 „ „ 9,000 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9,000 „ „ 9,500 ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
9,500 „ „ 10,000 ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
10,000 and over ..	..	1*	..	..	..	..	1*
Total ..	39	46	20	5	1	1	112

* 10,800 cubic feet.

It may be pointed out here that in working out the cubic measurement of tenements of both the labour and the middle classes verandahs whether closed or open were not taken into consideration. Verandahs are not common in Ahmedabad.

4. *Frequency of Rents*

A frequency table showing the rents paid by the middle classes is given below :—

Frequency of Rents

(Middle Class)

1926

Monthly rent in Rupees	One-roomed tenements	Two-roomed tenements	Three-roomed tenements	Four-roomed tenements	Five-roomed tenements	Nine-roomed tenements	All tenements
1 and below 2 ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
2 „ „ 3 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
3 „ „ 4 ..	6	6	1	..	..	..	13
4 „ „ 5 ..	1	8	2	..	..	..	11
5 „ „ 6 ..	13	6	2	..	..	..	21
6 „ „ 7 ..	10	5	3	..	..	..	18
7 „ „ 8 ..	3	6	5	..	..	..	14
8 „ „ 9 ..	2	8	1	1	..	..	12
9 „ „ 10 ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
10 „ „ 11 ..	2	1	1	1	..	..	5
11 „ „ 12 ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
12 „ „ 13 ..	..	1	1	2	..	..	4
13 „ „ 14 ..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
14 „ „ 15 ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
15 „ „ 16 ..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3
16 „ „ 17 ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
17 „ „ 18 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18 „ over ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Total ..	39	46	20	5	1	1	112

For one-roomed tenements the most common rent is from Rs. 5-6. In the case of two and more roomed tenements the figures do not group themselves about any pronouncedly prevalent type. The reason is that the tenements are so heterogeneous in type as to fall into many distinct classes. Rents from Rs. 7-8 may be said to be more common than other groups for two and more roomed tenements. All tenements taken together the most prevalent type is from Rs. 5-6.

One three-roomed tenement fetching a monthly rent of Rs. 1-10-8 was found in Dariapur.

III. GENERAL AMENITIES

1. *Ventilation*

The number of windows to each tenement was noted down on the form of enquiry. The number of windows is not of course an adequate index of the state of ventilation because the windows may not be kept

open and even if kept open may admit dust and smoke instead of light and fresh air. The size of the windows has not been taken down.

Number of Windows

Tenements with	Working Class		Middle Class	
	Number	Percentage to total	Number	Percentage to total
No Window	365	45·6	19	17·0
1 Window	236	29·5	19	17·0
2 Windows	88	11·0	26	23·2
3 Windows	42	5·3	15	13·4
4 Windows	23	2·9	14	12·5
5 Windows and over	26	3·3	15	13·4
Unspecified	19	2·4	4	3·5
Total ..	799	100	112	100

It will be seen from the above figures that 45·6 per cent. of working class tenements have no windows at all. Only 17 per cent. of middle class tenements have no windows.

2. *Conservancy*

Information was collected about the number of privies and the number of tenements making use of them. The privies belong either to the Municipality or to the Punch or to private persons. By Punch privies are meant the privies maintained in common by people in different *pols*. "The peculiarity of the houses of Ahmedabad is that they are generally built in blocks or *pols* varying in size from small courts of from five to ten houses to large quarters of the city containing as many as 10,000 inhabitants. The larger blocks are generally crossed by one main street with a gate at each end and are subdivided into smaller courts and blocks each with its separate gate branching off from either side of the chief thoroughfare."* In the case of Municipal and Punch privies it is not possible to find out how many tenements each of them is serving. In the case of private privies alone the number of tenements served by them was ascertained. At the time of tabulation the following classification was adopted :—

One privy for eight tenements and less Good
One privy for more than eight but less than sixteen tenements Fair
One privy for sixteen tenements and over Bad

* *Imperial Gazetteer.*

According to this classification the following results were arrived at :—

Privies

Tenements with	Working Class		Middle Class	
	Number	Percentage t total	Number	Percentage to total
Municipal privies	382	47·8	24	21·4
Punch privies	42	5·3	28	25·0
Private privies—				
Good	172	21·5	55	49·1
Fair	114	14·3	2	1·8
Bad	24	3·0		
Others	7	0·9		
No privies	53	6·6	1	0·9
Unspecified	5	0·6	2	1·8
Total ..	799	100	112	100

Where there is no privy people use adjoining open spaces. Under "Others" come privies in dharmasalas, etc. About 48 per cent. of the working classes use Municipal privies as against 21 per cent. of the middle class. Punch privies are more common among the middle class than among the working class.

Water-Supply

The classification adopted in the case of conservancy applies to water-supply also. The following table summarises the available information.

Water-taps

Tenements with	Working Class		Middle Class	
	Number	Percentage to total	Number	Percentage to total
Municipal taps	223	27·9	7	6·2
Private taps—				
Good	269	33·6	97	86·6
Fair	59	7·4	2	1·8
Bad	162	20·3	2	1·8
Others	19	2·4	1	0·9
Well water	64	8·0	3	2·7
Unspecified	3	0·4		
Total ..	799	100	112	100

Under "Others" come taps in mosques, temples, etc. About 20 per cent. of labour class tenements have been classified as bad from the standpoint of water supply. The use of wells is common especially in Asarwa and Gomtipur. About 6 per cent. of the middle classes depend on Municipal taps.

The classification into good, fair and bad is done merely on the basis of the number of tenements served by each tap and does not take into consideration the scarcity of water due to other reasons, *e.g.*, want of sufficient flow in the Municipal mains, etc.

IV. COMPARISON BETWEEN WORKING AND MIDDLE CLASS TENEMENTS

The following table summarises the principal results of the enquiry and at the same time compares working and middle class tenements.

Summary Table

	Working Class		Middle Class	
	One-roomed tenements	Two and more roomed tenements	One-roomed tenements	Two and more roomed tenements
No. of tenements tabulated	635	164	39	73
Measurement in cubic feet	1544	3195	2298	3739
Modal class for above	1000–1500	2000–2500	1000–2000	1500–2500
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rent in 1926 (all tenements) ..	4 6 1	6 6 10	5 9 8	7 5 9
Modal class for above	Rs 4—Rs. 5	Rs. 5—Rs. 6	Rs. 5—Rs. 6	Rs. 7—Rs. 8
Percentage of tenements with—				
No windows		45·6	17·0	
Municipal privies		47·8	21·4	
Municipal taps		27·9	6·2	

If the figures for the working and the middle classes are compared by wards some apparent inconsistencies like middle-class rents being lower than working-class rents and averages for two and more roomed tenements being less than those for one-roomed tenements arise. The former is due to the fact that the incomes of the working and the middle classes overlap and middle-class families with lower incomes are forced to adopt a standard of life in some respects lower than that of working class families with higher incomes. The latter is explained by the heterogeneous nature of the material sampled. Two-roomed tenements need not necessarily be bigger than one-roomed tenements and are in fact sometimes let out at lower rents in some places. These apparent inconsistencies disappear in the general averages for all wards where the number of tenements taken into consideration is large. The summary table given above therefore contains no such inconsistencies.

V. COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS ENQUIRIES

A house rent enquiry was conducted for labour class one-roomed tenements in Ahmedabad in 1923 and the results were published on page 1178 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1925. The method of sampling adopted in that enquiry was not as systematic as in the present enquiry. Where the results of the two enquiries differ in certain respects which cannot be explained, the results of the present enquiry may be taken to supersede those of the previous one for the reason stated above.

Specimen Form of Enquiry

The Ahmedabad Rent Enquiry, 1926

Serial No.	Ward No.	Street and Locality	Name and address of owner	Labour or middle class	Old or new Building	No. of rooms	Dimensions of each room l × b × h	Rent in		Sanitation 1. No. of windows 2. No. of privies to tenements 3. No. of taps to tenements 4. General (dirt, etc.)	Remarks (occupation of tenant, etc.)
								1913-1914	1926		

Middle Class Unemployment in the Bombay Presidency

In the October 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette* reference has been made to an Enquiry into Middle Class Unemployment which the Labour Office had undertaken. This enquiry was completed at the beginning of this year and the results based upon it are now incorporated in a special report which has just been published. It is proposed here to give a brief summary of the report.

The report which contains numerous tables and runs over more than 100 closely printed pages is divided into five sections. Section I contains introductory remarks regarding the definition of the subject-matter of the enquiry and the manner and method of conducting it. In Section II the statistics of unemployment relating to Bombay city have been analysed and commented upon. In Section III the combined results for the three mofussil centres, Poona, Ahmedabad and Karachi have been discussed. Section IV is devoted to the presentation of statistics collected for the other centres in the Presidency and Section V contains a discussion of the combined results of the whole Presidency.

This enquiry arose out of Government Resolution No. 5863 of 23rd September 1926 directing the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence to collect statistics regarding unemployment among the middle classes. The method of enquiry decided upon by the Labour Office was to draw up a suitable schedule and to send copies of this schedule together with a circular letter (copies of the schedule and the circular letter have already been printed on pages 938-40 of the November 1926 issue of the *Labour Gazette*) to various heads of offices, departments, schools, colleges, etc., with a request that the schedules might be circulated amongst unemployed persons known to themselves, to their subordinates, friends or students. In all, 20,446 schedules were circulated in the Presidency out of which 2575 were received back duly completed. A number of these schedules was defective and out of the total, only 1852 were accepted for final tabulation.

This enquiry relates to persons unemployed during the month of November 1926.

The schedules were, on the whole, filled in satisfactorily by the persons returning them.

It was a matter of considerable difficulty for the Labour Office to decide upon a definition of the expression " middle class ." This expression is one of those expressions in common use, the general significance of which is understood by all, but which it is somewhat difficult precisely to define. In this report the term " middle class " covers educated persons engaged for the most part in non-manual occupations. A further limitation was introduced because the enquiry dealt with only those who were literate in English, although there are of course many educated members of the middle class who do not know English. The reason for this limitation was (1) that the problem of middle-class employment, as generally understood, chiefly affects persons ordinarily engaged in the larger cities,

who by the nature of their education and occupation are "English knowing" and (2) the difficulty of approaching those who are chiefly engaged in *Pedhis* and small trading concerns.

The "unemployed" fo rthe purposes of this enquiry include (*a*) persons who had once had employment, but had lost it and (*b*) persons who are qualified for and desirous of holding a post, but have not been able to obtain one. In the case of the latter, the duration of unemployment has been counted from the fifth month after the individual was qualified for a post and desired to obtain one.

The Labour Office enquiry, therefore, covers unemployed persons not engaged in purely manual occupations, who have been educated at least upto the English Fourth Standard and have earned a salary of not less than Rs. 50 per month or are qualified to hold a post at that pay. The enquiry does not include pensioners or persons with fluctuating or unascertainable incomes. It also excludes persons in business on their own account and those following the learned professions.

BOMBAY CITY

Out of the 1852 schedules tabulated for the whole Presidency, 1244 or 67·17 per cent. were for Bombay city only. In Bombay city, only 9 unemployed women workers furnished schedules, but from this figure no deduction whatever can be drawn as to the relative incidence of unemployment among the sexes.

In Bombay city, of the 1244 unemployed persons, 65·76 per cent. had been previously employed while 34·24 per cent. had never been in employment. Of the total, 33·92 per cent. had been unemployed for six months or less, 29·02 per cent. for from seven to twelve months and 30·71 per cent. for over a year.

The bulk of the unemployed or 77·65 per cent. of the total were below the age of 32 and 61·41 per cent. of the total were between the ages of 17 and 26. Only about 12 per cent. were over 37. It appears from these figures that unemployment affects mostly younger men, very largely those who have just left school or college.

It is seen that 57·16 per cent. of the total unemployed in Bombay were unmarried. Of those 31 years of age and under, 68·12 per cent. were unmarried and of those 26 and under, 76·31 per cent. were unmarried.

As regards the duration of unemployment, excluding 79 cases in which it was not specified, in 67·21 per cent. the duration was one year or less.

The analysis of the figures according to religion and caste and native place shows that 64·79 per cent. were Hindus, 3·94 per cent. were Muhammadans, 13·18 per cent. were Parsis, 15·44 per cent. Christians, 2·09 per cent. Jews and 0·56 per cent. others. The bulk of the unemployed persons or nearly 80 per cent. of the total belong to the Bombay Presidency. Only 7·80 per cent. hail from Madras.

The table giving the analysis of the qualifications of unemployed persons is of interest. It is seen that nearly 50 per cent. of the unemployed persons covered by the returns do not possess what are generally regarded as the minimum qualifications. In 605 cases or 48·64 per cent. of the total the individual had not even passed the School Leaving Certificate Examination. Only 164 persons or 13·18 per cent. of the total had

passed the Matric or its equivalent examination. Fifty-one or 4·10 per cent. were undergraduates and 77 or 6·18 per cent. were graduates.

The returns when analysed according to the salary earned during previous employment by unemployed persons show that of the total, in 474 or 57·95 per cent. of the cases the salary earned was less than Rs. 80 per mensem, in 275 or 33·61 per cent. of the cases it was over Rs. 80 per month but below Rs. 175, while in 57 or 6·97 per cent. of the total it was over Rs. 175. The highest salary reported was Rs. 550 per month. The fact that the majority of the unemployed persons earned during their previous employment a comparatively low salary is not surprising when one considers that the majority of them are very poorly qualified.

One of the heads under which information was asked for in the schedule was the means of livelihood of the unemployed persons during the period of unemployment. The analysis of the information received under this head is of great interest. It shows that in nearly half the number of cases the unemployed person is supported by his relatives. The relatives most frequently reported to be supporting were the father and the brother. About 10 per cent. of the unemployed persons maintained themselves on savings. 6·75 per cent. of the persons reported that they were doing casual work. In 5·55 per cent. of the cases the means of livelihood reported were "debts." In 3·78 per cent. of the cases it was the support of friends and in ·88 per cent. cases it was charity. There were a few cases in which the unemployed person reported that he had taken to agriculture as a means of livelihood.

The number of cases in which unemployed persons had no dependents to support was only 173 or 13·91 per cent. of the total. The average number of dependents per unemployed person comes to 3·13.

The cause of unemployment was in 46·58 per cent. of the cases given as "retrenchment." In 8·44 per cent. of the cases it was attributed to "closing down of the office" in which the unemployed person had served. If this is also regarded as "retrenchment," this cause (*i.e.*, retrenchment) accounts for 55·02 per cent. of the unemployment. In 127 cases or 15·53 per cent. of the total, the cause of leaving last employment was "illness." In 82 or 10·02 per cent. of the cases, unemployment was due to resignation. It is surprising that so large a number of men should voluntarily place themselves on the unemployed list. The causes given for resigning were various. Some reported that they resigned in order to improve their prospects, others complained of ill-treatment at the hands of their superiors. In one case the person who was working as a salesman resigned because he thought the work "not agreeable to an educated man" and in one instance the unemployed person resigned because his politics did not agree with those of his master.

The position previously held by the majority of unemployed persons was that of a clerk. If typists and head clerks are also regarded as clerks, this group accounts for no less than 62·96 per cent. of the total.

It is seen that in nearly half the number of cases the means adopted by unemployed persons to secure employment were either applications only, or applications and personal calls. In no case was it stated that efforts were made to secure employment through the agency of some employment bureau.

POONA, AHMEDABAD AND KARACHI

The method of enquiry followed in the case of these three centres of the Presidency was the same as in the case of Bombay city, but the number of circular letters and schedules sent to these places was very much smaller than in Bombay city. The number of completed schedules received was only 697. Out of these, 443 were accepted for final tabulation, 58 for Ahmedabad, 172 for Poona and 213 for Karachi.

Neither in Ahmedabad nor in Karachi were schedules returned by females. In Poona city only 3 females returned the schedule.

It is seen that out of the 443 unemployed persons in these three centres, 243 or 54·85 per cent. of the total had been previously employed while 200 or 45·15 per cent. had never been in employment. Of the total, 33·41 per cent. were unemployed for six months or less, 30·02 per cent. for seven months to one year, 31·15 per cent. for more than one year, while 5·42 per cent. did not specify the duration of unemployment.

Of the total number of unemployed persons, 83·97 per cent. were below 32 years of age and 72·23 per cent. were between the ages of 17 and 26. Only 16·03 per cent. were over 32 years of age. As regards their civil condition, 48·98 per cent. were married, 48·31 per cent. were unmarried and 2·71 per cent. were widowers.

As regards the qualifications of unemployed persons in these three centres, of the total 443 unemployed, 192 or 43·34 per cent. had not even passed the Matriculation examination, 76 or 17·16 per cent. had passed the Matric or an equivalent examination, 29 or 6·55 per cent. were undergraduates, 42 or 9·48 per cent. were graduates and only 26 or 5·87 per cent. were typists.

As in Bombay city in these three centres, unemployment seems to affect persons on low salaries. The figures for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 80, Rs. 81 and Rs. 175 and Rs. 176 and above are 60·1, 30·4 and 9·5 per cent. respectively.

An analysis of the means of livelihood during unemployment in these three centres shows that 46·05 per cent. were supported by relatives, 9·48 per cent. were living by means of casual work while 8·58 per cent. were living on the income from real property. As in Bombay city, the average number of dependents per unemployed person comes to a little over 3.

Unemployment in these three centres seems to be mostly due to retrenchment (*i.e.*, retrenchment and the closing down of offices). Of the total, not less than 48·97 per cent. of the persons reported that the cause of leaving last employment was retrenchment. Illness was responsible for 11·94 per cent. of the unemployment, temporary work for 16·46 per cent., dismissal for 2·88 per cent., resignation for 5·76 per cent. and other causes for 13·17 per cent.

The table given in the report showing the duration of unemployment and the last position held brings out the fact that in Poona and in Karachi, the position previously held by the majority of unemployed persons was that of a clerk. The sample for Ahmedabad is too meagre to draw any conclusions from.

In all the three centres, the means adopted to secure employment were in the majority of cases either applications only, or personal calls and

applications. If all the three centres are considered, it will be seen that out of a total of 443, in 187 or 42 per cent. of the cases applications were the only means adopted while in 85 or 19 per cent. of the cases personal calls and applications were the means adopted to secure employment.

COMBINED RESULTS OF THE ENQUIRY FOR THE WHOLE PRESIDENCY

In the last section of the Report the results of the enquiry as a whole have been presented in order to enable the reader to get an idea of the middle class unemployment problem as it affects the whole Presidency. It is seen that of the total number of unemployed persons 59·56 per cent. had held previous employment, while 40·44 per cent. were never employed.

80·24 per cent. of the total unemployed persons were below the age of 32, 65·98 per cent. were below 27 years of age and 30·13 per cent. were below 22 years of age.

Of the total unemployed persons in the Presidency, 42·60 per cent. were married, 53·89 per cent. were unmarried, 3·19 per cent. were widowers while in 0·32 per cent. of the cases the civil condition was not specified.

Excluding 119 cases in which the duration of unemployment was not specified, in 615 or 35·49 per cent. of the cases the duration of unemployment was less than six months, in 529 or 30·52 per cent. of the cases it was over six months but not over one year, in 312 or 18 per cent. of the cases it was over one year but not over two years and in only 277 or 15·99 per cent. of the cases it was over two years. It will thus be seen that the majority or 66·01 per cent. of the persons were unemployed for a period of only one year or less.

Analysed according to religion and caste and region of origin it is seen that of the total number of unemployed persons in the Presidency, 69·22 per cent. were Hindus, 5·35 per cent. Muhammadans, 10·20 per cent. Parsis, 13·01 per cent. Christians, 1·84 per cent. Jews while in 7 or 0·38 per cent. of the cases the religion of the unemployed persons was not specified. Nearly 81 per cent. of the unemployed persons belong to the Bombay Presidency.

As regards educational qualifications, it is seen that 47·68 per cent. of the total had not passed the Matriculation examination which is considered the minimum qualification for a person desirous of entering Government service. 13·60 per cent. of the unemployed had passed the Matriculation or an equivalent examination, 4·59 per cent. were undergraduates, 7·02 per cent. were graduates, 5·78 per cent. knew typing, 1·73 per cent. knew shorthand and the rest either possessed some other miscellaneous qualification, technical or otherwise, or did not specify their qualifications or specified them very imperfectly.

The tables in the report showing the salary earned during previous employment indicate clearly that the unemployment problem is one that chiefly affects the lower paid workers. It is seen that out of the total unemployed persons in the Presidency, 58·57 per cent. earned a salary of Rs. 80 or below, 32·91 per cent. earned a salary of over Rs. 80 and below Rs. 175 and only 7·43 per cent. earned a salary over Rs. 175. In 12 or 1·09 per cent. of the cases the salary earned was not specified.

As regards the means of livelihood during unemployment, it is seen that 49·46 per cent. of the total or nearly half the number of unemployed persons were supported by their relatives during the period of unemployment. 8·15 per cent. maintained themselves on previous savings, 7·67 per cent. by casual work, and 4·91 per cent. by income from real property. Cases in which the unemployed person had to depend upon vicarious charity were comparatively few.

It appears that retrenchment is the principal cause of unemployment as in no fewer than 579 or 52·49 per cent. of the cases, the cause assigned for unemployment was retrenchment. In 15·14 per cent. of the cases it was illness, in 14·32 per cent. of the cases the unemployed person lost his job because it was a temporary one and in 8·98 per cent. of the cases unemployment was due to resignation.

The position previously held by the majority of unemployed persons was that of a clerk. 50·95 per cent. of the total returned themselves as clerks, 6 80 per cent. as typists, 2·36 per cent. as head clerks and 2·81 per cent. as store keepers. All these persons can be styled as clerks and the combined figure thus comes to 62·92 per cent. of the total.

It appears that the majority of unemployed persons try to secure an appointment either by means of applications only or by personal calls and applications.

The Weekly Rest in Spain

REGULATION FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY

As the result of a request addressed to the Spanish Ministry of Labour by the Federation of Fishing-boat Owners, the Minister has recently amended the Regulation of 17th December 1926 relating to the application of the Sunday rest in the fishing industry.

The Regulation in question provided that if, by virtue of any exemption, the crew of a fishing-boat were unable to take their weekly rest on Sunday, they were to be allowed another day of rest per seven-day period, taken after each two voyages of 3 to 7 days' duration, or at the end of each voyage of more than 7 days.

The new Regulation lays down that the rest day may be suspended over longer periods, but that in all cases the crew must be granted 13 days of rest in every period of three months, without any deduction from wages.

On Sundays, except in case of *force majeure*, the crews of fishing-boats shall not be called upon to undertake any work other than that of navigation and ensuring the safety of the vessel. All work not justified by the special circumstances laid down in the Regulation shall be paid for as overtime. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.*)

Labour in the Japanese Cotton Industry

A Report on the Cotton Spinning and Weaving Industry in Japan for the year 1925-26 has recently been issued by Mr. W. Cunningham, His Majesty's Consul at Osaka. The report deals, among other things, with the conditions of labour in the Japanese cotton industry, and it is proposed briefly to summarise in this article those parts of the Report which deal with this subject.

The beginning of the Japanese Cotton Industry dates from the year 1867 when the first mills were created. In the early years the industry did not make much progress and it was not until the year 1896, when the import duty on raw cotton was abolished, that it became one of national importance. It was, however, the Great War which gave the industry its great opportunity and led to its unprecedented development. After the restoration of peace, the industry suffered from the post-war slump, but since 1921, notwithstanding the earthquake disaster in 1923, the industry has resumed its unusual progress. In 1925 production both of yarn and of piecegoods attained record figures in spite of the world wide slump in trade and industry.

The following table gives the number of operatives employed by the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association and the rates of wages paid :—

Number of, and Average Daily Wages paid to, Cotton Spinning and Weaving Operatives in Japan during 1916-1925 *

A—SPINNING

Period	Average number of operatives			Average daily wages (in yen)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Per operative
1916	24,195	95,349	119,544	0·504	0·336	0·370
1917	25,776	96,852	122,628	0·573	0·392	0·430
1918	26,536	90,473	117,009	0·747	0·519	0·570
1919	32,568	106,110	138,678	1·339	1·079	1·140
1920	33,331	106,661	139,992	1·514	1·131	1·222
1921	35,295	106,450	141,745	1·486	1·175	1·252
1922	42,130	135,431	177,561	1·537	1·234	1·306
1923	36,724	114,911	151,635	1·481	1·181	1·254
1924	36,319	118,854	155,173	1·530	1·202	1·278
1925	40,037	136,233	176,270	1·554	1·221	1·297

* Figures in this table relate to the second half of each year.

B—WEAVING

Period	Average number of operatives			Average daily wages (in yen)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Per operative
1916 . ..	3,764	22,733	26.497	0·535	0·409	0·427
1917	4,588	23,525	28,113	0·611	0·465	0 488
1918 .. .	5,796	30,150	35,946	0·774	0·570	0·603
1919 .. .	8,741	39,838	48,579	1·347	1·072	1·122
1920 . ..	7,725	37,018	44,743	1·516	1·110	1·180
1921	6,681	31,766	38,447	1·524	1·181	1·241
1922 .. .	7,947	38,416	46,353	1·554	1·218	1·276
1923 .. .	8,045	40,306	48,351	1·479	1·185	1·234
1924	8,123	43,327	51,450	1·540	1·169	1·228
1925 .. .	8,882	47,615	56,497	1·578	1·227	1·283

From the above table it will be seen that since 1916 the number of spinners has increased by 47 per cent. and the number of weavers by 113 per cent. Another remarkable feature of the above table is that of the spinners 22·7 per cent. are males and 77·3 per cent. are females, while of the weavers only 15·7 per cent. are males and 84·3 per cent. are females. This presents a sharp contrast to conditions in the Indian Cotton Industry where the majority of the operatives are males.

The average daily wage per operative in 1925 was for spinners 1·297 yen or Re. 1-7-5 per day. The average daily wage of males in the spinning department was Re. 1-12-1 and of females Re. 1-6-1. In the weaving department the average daily wage in 1925 was 1·283 yen or Re. 1-7-2 per day, that for female operatives being Re. 1-6-2 and for male operatives Re. 1-12-6. It appears from these figures that there is only a slight difference in Japan in the wages paid to males and females and that the wages paid to spinners are a little higher than those paid to weavers. In India, on the other hand, there is a very appreciable difference between the wages paid to males and females and those paid to weavers and spinners in the cotton mills. There is no universal rule in the Japanese cotton industry as regards the method of payment of wages, but, speaking generally, the mill employees are paid at a daily rate of wages while the female employees are paid according to the amount of work done.

During the last fifteen years the average number of working days per month in the Japanese cotton spinning and weaving mills has not varied very considerably. In 1912 it was 27·8, in 1923 26·8, in 1924 26·3 and in 1925 26·7. Usually no work is done on Sundays and the practice of observing this day as a general holiday has increased very noticeably during the past few years.

In the spinning departments of the mills, the practice of working double shifts may be said to be universal and the average number of working hours in 1912 was 22·3. There has since then been a decrease and the average in 1923 was 20·47 hours, in 1924 18·54 hours, and in 1925 19·80 hours.

As regards the efficiency of operatives in the mills there is a concensus of opinion among industrialists in Japan that during recent years there has been little or no change. A great impediment in the way of improving the efficiency of the workers has been the comparatively short length of time for which the women operatives remain in the mills. The majority of the girls take up the work as a means of obtaining some money before marriage and the average length of time spent in a mill is seldom more than two and at the outside three years. In the case of the male operatives conditions are somewhat better as many of them remain some years in the mills and attain considerable knowledge of their work. Figures of the number of spindles and looms managed by operatives however show that there has been actually in recent years an improvement in the efficiency of workers. In 1925, as compared with 1920, it would appear that as regards spinning there has been a decrease of between 4 and 5 in the number of operatives required to attend 1000 spindles. This amounts to an improvement of about 16·5 per cent. As regards weaving, the improvement amounts to 28·2 per cent.

The Eight-Hour Day in France

SALARIED WORKERS AND OVERTIME

According to the provisions of the French Eight-Hour Day Act of 23rd April 1919, before the Act is enforced in any industry public administrative regulations are issued setting forth the exemptions allowed for certain specific occupations.

The question arose recently whether a salaried worker paid by the month, *i.e.*, working on a contract, has the right to demand the payment of overtime by his employer for any hours worked over and above the legal eight-hour day.

A chemist's dispenser demanded from his employer the payment of overtime hours worked in accordance with the exemptions authorised by the Decree of 5th March 1926. In opposing this claim, the chemist insisted on the fact that the work was performed under a contract, and also that the dispenser had only made the claim after leaving his employment.

The *Conseil de Prud'hommes*, before whom the case was brought, pronounced in favour of the dispenser.

The employer thereupon appealed to the 7th Chamber of the Tribunal, which confirmed the judgment of the *Prud'hommes*, and laid down that (1) effective hours of overtime should be paid for at an enhanced rate, and (2) the fact that payment was not claimed at once did not constitute a renunciation of the right to it. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.*)

Reviews of Books and Reports

Economics of Agricultural Progress (with reference to conditions in the Deccan), by B. G. Sapre, M.A., pp. 207, 1926

The object of the author in writing this little book is, as he points out in his prefatory note, " to marshal some of those considerations which form the background of agricultural prosperity." His immediate purpose in writing the book, appears however to be to present the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture with his views on the various questions into which they are at present enquiring.

It is difficult within the narrow limits of a review adequately to deal with a book running over more than 200 pages. But a few points arising out of the book may be referred to here. In the first place, the title of the book is very misleading. In a book on the economics of agricultural progress, one would expect to find either an examination of the general theoretical considerations underlying agricultural progress or at least a statistical and economic analysis of the subject. What one actually finds is a super-abundance of the author's personal opinions on various questions, very often based only on a pinpoint of fact.

The method followed by the author in dealing with the subject is extremely vague. As he himself acknowledges, he has followed neither the extensive nor the intensive method of investigation and on p. 3 where he attempts to explain his method, it amounts to this that he has followed no particular method of enquiry at all.

Many of the suggestions made by the author for agricultural improvement are not only jejune but even fantastic. For instance, on p. 184 he seriously suggests that Government should start wood depots in every village in order to prevent cowdung cakes being used for cremation purposes. On the same page he emphasises the necessity of passing legislation to regulate the keeping of goats to avoid damage to vegetation ! He suggests the creation of various officers for talukas and districts to look after almost every side of the peasants' life and when it comes to considering the cost of such schemes he dismisses it with the remark " by additions here and retrenchments there such a body of subordinate officials can be put together without any considerable extra burden upon the taxpayer." (p. 189).

The documentation in this book being defective, it is very difficult to verify the statements made by the author or to check the statistics used by him for drawing his conclusions. Most of the statements are unsupported by evidence and the references given are very inadequate, and in some cases even inaccurate. For instance, on p. 100 where it is possible to check the statement from the source indicated, it is seen that the author has misquoted Dr. Mann and has also given an inaccurate reference, since the statement has been taken not from p. 44 but from p. 46 of Dr. Mann's book. In the bibliography on p. 206, the title of Gadgil's book has been wrongly given. The table on p. 88 does not occur on p. 43 but p. 42 of the *Statistical Atlas.*

As in the case of most recent books on Indian economics, the present book leaves much to be desired as regards the presentation of statistical

data. It will be seen that on p. 196 the average given in the last column is 17·8 while the correct average ought to be somewhere near 15·8. The table on p. 88 which is called a comparative table is thoroughly defective. On p. 156 it is said that landholders had between them 718 separate plots of land but the total of the table comes to 723 and not 718. It is not understood why there should be a difference in the number of holdings given on p. 116 and on p. 196.

In spite of its numerous shortcomings, the book is a useful addition to the existing literature on the subject.

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Annual Report on the Working of the Indian Factories Act in the United Provinces for the year 1926, by W. G. Mackay, Allahabad. The Superintendent, Government Printing Press, U. P., 1927

The total number of factories in the United Provinces at the end of the year under report was 335 as compared with 294 in 1925. The total average daily number of operatives was 85,517 as compared with 78,942 in the previous year.

There were during the year 1637 accidents, 12 fatal, 141 serious and 1484 minor.

The weekly hours of work in 52 factories were not more than 48, in 20 factories they were not more than 54 and in 236 factories they were above 54. On the whole, however, the working hours of the majority of factories were upto the total hours of work allowed by the Act.

As regards welfare work, it is pointed out that Indian owned and managed concerns were not doing very much for the welfare of their employees but, speaking generally, many of the large industrial concerns in the province do something in this direction by providing free medical attendance for their employees, schools for employees' children or donations to hospitals and dispensaries. Some concerns also provide crêches.

The wages of both skilled and unskilled labour remained practically the same as in the previous year.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 102, JUNE 1927. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Pension Funds : Some Preliminary Considerations, by Sir Joseph Burn, K.B.E., F.I.A.*, pp. 179-182.

(2) *Welfare in the Dyeing and Cleaning Industry. III*—Superannuation scheme—non-contributory; superannuation scheme—contributory; savings bank; sick club and funeral benefit society; dental treatment; mess room; holidays; works council; fire brigade; social side: men's club; girls' club; long service; the South Hackney and District Business Houses Athletic Association. pp. 183-187.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 5, MAY 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles : (1) *Report of Board in Dispute between the Shipping Federation of Canada and the Canadian Pacific Steamships, Limited, and their Checkers and Coopers.*—Report of Board—statement by Col.W.I.Gear, on behalf of the shipping companies, brotherhood of railway and steamship clerks, freight handlers, express and station employees. pp. 492-495.

(2) *Report of Board in Dispute between the Canadian National Railways and its clerks, freight handlers, etc., in and around shops and roundhouses.*—Report of Board; minority report. pp. 496-500.

(3) *Labour Legislation Enacted by the Parliament of Canada and the Legislatures of Quebec and Manitoba in 1927.*—Canada; Quebec; Manitoba. pp. 506-507.

(4) *Lumber Industry and Workmen's Compensation in New Brunswick.*—Report of Provincial Royal Commission; the report—prevention of accidents, first aid, administration of the Act, estimated payroll, application for compensation, co-operation, adjusting assessments; summary. pp. 508-510.

(5) *Workmen's Compensation in Nova Scotia and British Columbia during ten years.*—Nova Scotia—industrial conditions in 1926, value of compensation, accidents, medical aid, income and expenditure by classes, administration, etc.; British Columbia—protection to workmen, accidents and claims during 1926, accident prevention. pp. 511-514.

(6) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Manitoba: New Order Governing certain Manufacturing Industries.*—Hours of labour; wages; permits of exemption. pp. 515-516.

(7) *Industrial Conditions in Canada and the United States: Report of Delegation appointed by British Government.*—General characteristics; industrial relations; earnings of labour; hours of work; conditions in Canada; pp. 518-521.

(8) *Fascist "Charter of Labour" for Italy.*—Text of the Charter. pp. 524-526.

(9) *League of Nations International Labour Organization: Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference.*—Ratification of conventions by Jugo-Slavia; the eight-hour day in France; the right of association by employers and employed; international survey of legal decisions on labour law, 1925; recent publications regarding international labour organization. pp. 534-536.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 6, JUNE 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *An inquiry in Regard to the Cause of Spinners' Scrotal Cancer, by James Robertson, M.B., D P.H. (Medical Officer of Health, Darwen, England.)* Introduction; part 1, the faller shaft and the process of oiling—the spinner and the faller shaft, the oiling of the bolster, experiments showing extent and duration of oil spray from bolster, experiment to measure throw of oil, starting the mule, the spinner and the oil spray, summary; part 2, a further investigation of the question of oil—capillary experiment; part 3, history—overalls; conclusions. pp. 217-238.

(2) *A Study of the Lead Line, Arteriosclerosis, and Hypertension in 381 Lead Workers by May R. Mayers, M.A., M.D. (Bureau of Industrial Hygiene, New York State Department of Labor.)*—Standardization of terminology; lead line in the gums; arteriosclerosis; hypertension; conclusions. pp. 239-249.

(3) *The Comfort Zone for Men at Rest and Stripped to the Waist, by C.P. Yaglou (Department of Ventilation and Illumination, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.)*—Introduction—other investigations on determining the comfort zone; equipment; experimental procedure; advantages and disadvantages of experimental method; experimental data—sensations of comfort in relation to effective temperature and relative humidity; effect of diurnal and seasonal acclimatization on sensations of comfort; effect of clothing on temperature limits of comfort zone; seasonal variation in optimum temperature for comfort; thermometric chart with comfort zone superimposed; summary. pp. 250-263.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

Employment during May showed continued improvement in almost every industry. The improvement was again most marked in those industries in which unemployment nevertheless remained severe, such as shipbuilding, marine engineering, public works contracting, and the hand tool and cutlery industry. In the building and clothing industries there was a further seasonal improvement, and employment was good on the whole. There was also an improvement in general engineering, in the wool textile industry, textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., and the boot and shoe industry. In the coal-mining industry both the numbers wholly unemployed and the numbers temporarily stopped showed a slight decrease as compared with 25th April, but employment remained slack on the whole. Employment in the tin plate industry and among workers in the canal, river, dock, etc., service continued bad, and was worse than in the previous month.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together at 23rd May 1927, was 8·8, as compared with 9·4 at 25th April 1927, and 14·3 at 24th May 1926. The percentage wholly unemployed declined from 7·2 at 25th April to 6·7 at 23rd May. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 30th May 1927, was approximately 1,015,000, of whom 823,000 were men and 136,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 25th April 1927, it was 1,075,000, of whom 867,000 were men and 144,000 were women, and at 31st May 1926, it was 1,675,000, of whom 1,246,000 were men and 333,000 were women. The figures for May 1926 (although exclusive of coal miners disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute provisions), were, of course, affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.*)

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The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in May was 38. In addition, 15 disputes which began before May were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in May (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 16,000; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during May was about 73,000 working days. The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first five months of 1927 was about 594,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 45,000. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.*)

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At 1st June the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including

food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 63 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 64 per cent. a month ago and 68 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 54, 54 and 58 respectively.

The fall in the index number at 1st June, as compared with a month earlier, was due to reductions in retail prices of coal. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1927.*)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Departmental Committee on Workmen's Compensation appointed by the Government of the Irish Free State on 28th May 1926 has recommended important changes, especially in the rates of benefit. The existing law comprises the British legislation of 1906, as amended by the War Addition Acts. The general character of the changes proposed is similar to that of those introduced in Great Britain by the Act of 1923.

Insurance is at present optional. Proposals for State intervention to guarantee the payment of compensation were put aside by the Committee to wait until statistical evidence of the necessity of such intervention should become available.

There is no statutory right for an injured workman to medical aid (except as poor relief), since medical benefit is not provided by the health insurance scheme. It is recommended that, when medical aid is introduced as a health insurance benefit, the cost of additional treatment and of artificial limbs should be paid by employers.

Cash compensation in respect of fatal accidents should no longer vary with wages, but be fixed at a rate depending on the age of the widow and the number of her minor children; for the former, compensation would take the form of a lump sum, and for each child, that of an annuity up to the age of 15.

For total incapacity, there should be a weekly payment of 80 per cent. of earnings, if less than £1 a week, and 75 per cent. in other cases, subject to a maximum of 35*s.* a week.

For the first time in English-speaking countries a proposal is made to award additional compensation (20 per cent.) for every seriously disabled man needing constant help. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 20, 1927.*)

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The Italian Chamber of Deputies adopted on 31st March 1927 a Bill introduced by the Government on 15th December 1926 for the purpose of giving full and complete effect in Italy and her Colonies to the *Convention concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents* (Geneva, 1925).

The Bill was sent to the Senate on 3rd May. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.*)

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On 18th May 1927, the Belgian Senate adopted a Bill relating to "compensation for occupational diseases," which is intended to apply the *Convention concerning workmen's compensation for occupational diseases*

adopted by the Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 1925). (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 6, 1927.*)

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OTHER COUNTRIES

On 1st January 1927 an amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act of New Zealand came into force.

Its object is to raise the rates of compensation provided in the Act of 1920, which itself considerably increased the previous rates.

The new scale provides compensation for incapacity at the rate of two-thirds of wages, instead of 58 per cent. as hitherto, and lengthens the maximum period during which such compensation may be drawn from 156 weeks to 208 weeks.

The rate of compensation may not exceed £4 a week, nor may the aggregate payments exceed £1000. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 20, 1927.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JUNE 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. The Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mill, Barsi.	640	44	4 May	1 June	Demand for the same rates of wages as are paid in Sholapur Mills.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.
2. The Bhagirath Mill, Jalgaon.	328	120	9 May	1 June	Refusal to admit an operative to work after absence without leave.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Alexandra Mill, Ghorupdeo, Bombay.	400	..	1 June	2 June	Less work resulting in decrease in earnings.	The strike ended in a compromise.
4. The Patel Mills, Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.	28	..	6 June	10 June	Demand for an increase in wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
5. The New Pratap Spinning and Weaving Mill, Dhulia, West Khandesh.	115	..	15 June	16 June	Demand for higher rates of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
Miscellaneous						
6. The Tatta Municipality, Tatta, Karachi District.	35	..	10 June	13 June	Demand for an increase in pay and for dismissal of a Jamadar.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES*

1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I. Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	75 (1)	94 (a)	43	59 (a)	4	4	41	72	75	79	120	155
Woollen Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	1	3	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	4	2	5
Total ..	76	97	44	61	4	4	42	73	76	83	122	160
II. Workshops—												
Engineering ..	12	3	73	72	..	1	14	14	71	60	85	75
Railway ..	32	60	326	259	..	1	42	45	316	273	358	319
Mint ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	2	2 (a)	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	3	2
Total ..	45	65	401	331	..	2	58	59	389	335	447	396
III. Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Printing Presses ..	1	1	3	1	..	..	3	..	1	2	4	2
Others ..	3	5	2 (a)	4	..	..	3	4	3	5	6	9
Total ..	4	6	5	5	..	..	6	4	4	7	10	11
Total, All Factories ..	125	168	450	397	4	6	106	136	469	425	579	567

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to: Machinery in motion		Other causes		Nature of injury: Fatal		Serious		Minor		Total No. of persons injured	
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	33	50(a)	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
Total ..	33	50	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
II. Miscellaneous—												
Match Factories ..	2	.	1	..	..	.	2	..	1	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Total, All Factories ..	35	50	27	25	1	1	32	41	29	34	62	76

* The figures for March and April have been revised.

Explanation.—(a) 2 persons injured by one accident.

(b) 3 persons injured by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES—(*contd.*)

3. Karachi City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust ..		3	4	2	.		..	..	4	5	4	5
Engineering ..		..	.	1	..		..	1	.	..	..	1
Total ..	.	3	4	3	..		.	1	4	5	4	6
II Miscellaneous— .	2	..	3	1	..	.	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total .	2	.	3	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total, All Factories ..	2	.	7	4	..	.	1	2	8	5	9	7

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	13	21	12 (*d*)	4	13	1	15	15	10	9	38	25
Others ..	2	5	..	4	.	..	1	4	1	5	2	9
Total ..	15	26	12	8	13	1	16	19	11	14	40	34
II. Workshops—												
Railway ..	5	6	57	46	..	.	11	5	51	47	62	52
Arms and Ammunition ..	1	..	5	2	..	..	2	..	4	2	6	2
Others ..	1	2	2	2	..	.	1	2	2	2	3	4
Total ..	7	8	64	50	..	.	14	7	57	51	71	58
II. Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories..	5	2	5 (*c*)	1	6	.	2	..	5	3	13	3
Paint Works ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	2	3	7	5	1	..	3	4	5	4	9	..
Total ..	7	5	12	6	7	..	5	4	10	7	22	11
Total, All Factories ..	29	39	88	64	20	1	35	30	78	72	133	103

Explanation :—(*a*) 2 persons injured by one accident.
(*c*) 4 persons injured by one accident.
(*d*) 13 persons injured by one accident.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of May			Two months ended May		
		1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ,, ..		6,555	6,070	6,054	12,791	12,967	12,082
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ,, ..		20,067	18,087	18,446	39,766	36,314	37,250
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ,, ..		14,918	15,589	16,185	28,544	30,896	32,064
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ,, ..		1,151	1,801	2,090	2,319	3,392	3,917
Above 40 .. ,, ..		407	810	986	811	1,544	1,958
Waste, etc. .. ,, ..		10	173	117	20	254	209
Total ..		43,098	42,530	43,878	84,251	85,367	87,480

BOMBAY CITY

Pounds		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ,, ..		5,900	5,360	5,337	11,536	11,549	10,633
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ,, ..		13,436	11,984	12,544	26,868	24,346	25,223
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ,, ..		9,974	9,582	10,100	19,058	19,252	19,989
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ,, ..		652	752	906	1,264	1,465	1,663
Above 40 .. ,, ..		236	300	470	465	547	956
Waste, etc. .. ,, ..		2	162	117	4	235	209
Total ..		30,200	28,140	29,474	59,195	57,394	58,673

AHMEDABAD

Pounds		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 .. ,, ..		205	185	185	387	360	379
Nos. 11 to 20 .. ,, ..		3,541	3,462	3,213	7,027	6,749	6,596
Nos. 21 to 30 .. ,, ..		3,778	4,404	4,938	7,330	8,638	9,653
Nos. 31 to 40 .. ,, ..		322	812	850	693	1,460	1,612
Above 40 .. ,, ..		116	392	376	244	749	716
Waste, etc. .. ,, ..		..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..		7,962	9,255	9,562	15,681	17,956	18,956

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi " ..	827	683	1,727	1,527	1,601	2,701
Chudders " ..	1,155	1,207	1,588	2,302	2,401	2,804
Dhotis " ..	7,093	7,847	8,402	14,090	14,816	15,769
Drills and jeans " ..	1,108	1,122	1,295	2,343	2,315	2,646
Cambrics and lawns " ..	159	13	33	196	32	61
Printers " ..	262	192	153	629	420	361
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	8,499	10,511	10,973	17,365	20,742	20,990
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	1,067	1,026	1,410	2,173	1,974	3,037
Tent cloth " ..	73	26	86	231	64	180
Other sorts " ..	586	487	504	1,150	992	1,051
Total " ..	20,829	23,114	26,171	42,006	45,357	49,600
Coloured piecegoods " ..	7,073	9,046	10,030	14,854	18,055	20,244
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods " ..	302	318	241	581	629	433
Hosiery " ..	16	24	37	33	49	65
Miscellaneous " ..	138	230	281	257	520	566
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	55	231	418	109	355	736
Grand Total " ..	28,413	32,963	37,178	57,840	64,965	71,644

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi " ..	624	582	854	1,171	1,398	1,697
Chudders " ..	801	854	1,144	1,618	1,607	1,988
Dhotis " ..	2,433	2,329	2,886	4,535	4,430	5,324
Drills and jeans " ..	997	945	1,221	2,095	2,103	2,515
Cambrics and lawns " ..	128	3	13	149	3	26
Printers " ..	..	..	..	7	..	..
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	6,510	8,155	8,013	13,167	16,240	15,977
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	774	632	1,109	1,569	1,347	2,474
Tent cloth " ..	46	19	80	171	46	166
Other sorts " ..	233	271	256	481	537	565
Total " ..	12,546	13,840	15,576	24,963	27,711	30,732
Coloured piecegoods " ..	5,015	6,111	6,770	10,214	12,060	13,517
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods " ..	291	307	239	558	608	428
Hosiery " ..	3	4	11	11	12	19
Miscellaneous " ..	132	199	237	235	420	452
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	55	95	214	108	163	399
Grand Total " ..	18,042	20,556	23,047	36,089	40,974	45,547

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	56	17	8	115	47	23
Chudders „ ..	289	241	310	537	620	564
Dhotis „ ..	3,429	4,593	4,174	7,014	8,593	8,113
Drills and jeans „ ..	75	30	32	140	64	61
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	24	9	17	34	27	30
Printers „ ..	154	127	54	347	244	169
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,488	1,732	1,847	3,120	3,349	3,423
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	271	210	217	555	451	387
Tent cloth „ ..	13	3	1	42	6	2
Other sorts „ ..	206	141	149	431	280	306
Total „ ..	6,005	7,103	6,809	12,344	13,681	13,083
Coloured piecegoods „ ..	1,297	2,028	2,118	3,182	4,215	4,530
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods „ ..	1	2	2	2	3	4
Hosiery „ ..	12	20	26	22	37	46
Miscellaneous „ ..	3	32	44	20	101	112
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	..	132	199	..	188	329
Grand Total „ ..	7 318	9,317	9,198	15,570	18,225	18,104

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill ..	Md.	4 11 3	6 12 7	6 6 10	6 3 1	100	144	137	132
Wheat	Delhi No. 1 ..	Cwt.	5 9 6		7 12 9	7 12 9	100	..	139	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni ..	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	82 8 0	82 8 0	100	156	183	183
Do. .	Jubbulpore ..	,,	40 0 0	54 8 0	55 8 0	52 8 0	100	136	139	131
Iowari .. .	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 8 10(1)	4 5 5(1)	4 5 5(1)	100	144	137	137
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 13 11	4 7 1	4 7 1	100	148	135	135
Bajri .. .	Ghati ..	,,	3 4 6	5 11 5	4 10 6	4 10 6	100	174	142	142
Index No.—Cereals ..							100	150	145	143
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort) ..	Maund	4 3 9	5 1 3	4 10 6	4 10 6	100	120	110	110
Turdal	Cawnpore ..	,,	5 10 5	7 9 11	8 2 4	8 7 5	100	135	144	150
Index No.—Pulses ..							100	128	127	130
Index No.—Food grains ..							100	145	141	140
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius ..	Cwt.	9 3 0				100	..	..	..
Do.	Java white ..	,,	10 3 0	18 4 0	16 0 0	15 2 0	100	179	157	148
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona ..	Maund	7 14 3	9 12 9	8 7 0	8 9 2	100	124	107	109
Index No.—Sugar ..							100	152	132	129
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	7 5 7	8 4 9	8 11 4	100	132	149	156
Ghee	Deshi ..	,,	45 11 5	80 0 0	85 11 5	91 6 10	100	175	188	200
Salt	Bombay (black) ..	,,	1 7 6	2 0 0	1 14 0	2 0 0	100	136	128	136
Index No.—Other food ..							100	148	155	164
Index No.—All Food ..							100	146	143	143
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	11 1 0	11 3 0	11 0 0	100	124	126	124
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown) ..	,,	8 0 0	12 4 0	11 6 0	11 11 0	100	153	142	146
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	14 4 0	17 4 0	17 12 0	100	131	159	163
Gingelly seed	White ..	,,	11 4 0	18 0 0	17 4 0	16 10 0	100	160	153	148
Index No.—Oilseeds ..					.	..	100	142	145	145

Textiles—Cotton—											
(a) *Cotton, raw—* †											
Broach	Good	Candy	251 0 0	342 0 0	323 0 0	336 0 0	100	136	129	134	
Oomra	Fully good	,,	222 0 0	325 0 0	310 0 0	329 0 0	100	146	140	148	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	,,	230 0 0	350 0 0	341 0 0	345 0 0	100	152	148	150	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	,,	205 0 0	291 0 0	299 0 0	319 0 0	100	142	146	156	
Bengal	Do.	,,	198 0 0	257 0 0	292 0 0	306 0 0	100	130	147	155	
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	141	142	149	
(b) *Cotton manufactures—*											
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 1 6	1 1 3	100	149	137	135	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	9 12 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	100	164	147	147	
White mulls*	6/600	,,	4 3 0	9 12 0	9 0 0	9 6 0	100	233	215	215	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	,,	10 6 0	20 8 0	17 14 0	17 4 0	100	198	172	166	
Long Cloth	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 0	0 15 0	0 15 0	100	179	158	158	
Chudders	54" × 6 yds.	,,	0 9 6	1 0 0	0 13 6	0 13 9	100	168	142	145	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures				...			100	182	162	161	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton				...	..	...	100	163	153	155	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	5 14 8	6 6 2	7 0 11	100	115	124	137	
Do.	Mathow Lan	,,	2 15 1	4 4 10	4 11 3	4 11 3	100	146	160	160	
Index No.—Other Textiles				..	...	..	100	131	142	149	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 7 11	1 15 9	1 10 2	100	129	172	141	
Do Buffalo	Do.	,,	1 1 3	0 13 11	0 13 10	0 13 11	100	81	80	81	
Skins, Goat	Do.	,,	1 4 0	2 12 3	2 6 2	2 5 9	100	221	191	189	
Index No.—Hides and Skins				.. .	...		100	144	148	137	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	57 8 0	56 0 0	55 0 0	100	95	93	91	
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	175	169	169	
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 4 0	100	129	129	132	
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	14 8 0	13 15 0	13 2 0	100	161	155	146	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 0 0	16 8 0	15 0 0	100	183	189	171	
Index No.—Metals				.			100	149	147	142	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal (2)	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	142	142	142	
Do.	Imported	,,	19 11 6	18 0 3	24 15 8	22 10 1	100	91	127	115	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 6 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	169	175	175	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles					.	.	100	147	159	156	
Index No.—Food					..	..	100	146	143	143	
Index No.—Non-food				.. .		...	100	151	150	149	
General Index No.							100	150	148	147	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality. (2) Since June 1925, the quotation is for Bengal, 1st Class Jheria.

*In the absence of price-quotations for the grade 6/600 the price quoted since June 1925 for white mulls is for the grade 6,000.

†Since October 1925, the price-quotations for raw cotton are for the following five varieties, *viz.*, Broach, Fully good; Comra, Fine; Dharwar, Saw-ginned, F.G.; Khandesh, Fully good; and Bengal, Fully good.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927	July 1914	June 1926	May 1927	June 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—					(1)	(1)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	60 8 0	61 12 0	61 12 0	100	155	158	158
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red ..	,,	31 8 0	43 4 0	43 4 0	41 4 0	100	137	137	131
,, red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red ..	,,	31 4 0	42 4 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	135	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	44 8 0	44 6 0	42 6 0	100	137	137	130
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	43 8 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	135	127	127
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	43 8 0	38 8 0	38 8 0	100	171	151	151
Barley	3% dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	35 8 0	36 0 0	34 0 0	100	134	136	128
Index No.—Cereals ..					..		100	143	139	136
Pulses—				(2)	(2)	(2)				
Gram	1% dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	37 4 0	36 12 0	34 8 0	100	126	125	117
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white ..	Cwt	9 2 0	17 4 0	15 5 0	15 1 0	100	189	168	165
,, ...	,, brown .	,,	8 1 6		14 4 0	13 12 0	100	..	176	170
Index No—Sugar ..					..		100	189	172	168
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 11 6	1 10 6	100	78	81	78
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 12 0	4 2 0	4 3 0	100	139	153	155
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0		70 8 0	67 8 0	100	..	138	132
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture ..	,,	62 0 0		97 0 0	99 0 0	100	..	156	160
Index No.—Oilseeds ..					..		100	139	149	149
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	53 0 0	48 8 0	50 0 0	100	139	127	131

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	28 0 0	34 4 0	34 4 0	100	138	169	169
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	19 8 0	13 12 0	13 14 0	100	191	135	135
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	20 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	198	168	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..					..		100	195	152	152
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..					..		100	176	157	158
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	31 0 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	111	129	129
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	12 0 0	14 8 0	15 0 0	100	56	68	71
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	12 0 0	14 8 0	15 0 0	100	56	68	71
Index No.—Hides ..					..		100	56	68	71
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 8 0	57 0 0	56 8 0	100	97	94	93
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	5 8 0	6 12 0	6 4 0	100	142	174	161
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	5 12 0	7 0 0	6 10 0	100	131	160	151
Index No.—Metals ..					..		100	123	143	135
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	21 2 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	132	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	185	185
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins	4 7 0	7 4 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	163	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles					..		100	159	165	165
Index No.—Food ..					..		100	140	138	135
Index No.—Non-food ..					..		100	134	140	139
General Index No. ..					..		100	136	139	137

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Sukkur, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No., non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	178	190	185
1925														
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148
March ..	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	163	134	137	156	161	149	148
April ..	144	125	134	150	141	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	145
May ..	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148	147	159	150	148
June ..	143	130	129	164	143	145	149	161	149	137	142	156	149	147

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 " ..	100	96			106	(e) 106		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 " ..		97			147	102		140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 " ..		117			138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 " ..		149			153	169		262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 " ..	236	196			178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 " ..	222	236			189	226		356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 " ..	216	259	152		228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 " ..	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 " ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 "	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 " ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 "	163	202	159	171	170	152	159	550	155	251	157	160	159
" July ..	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
" August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
" September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
" October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
" November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
" December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
" February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
" March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
" April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
" May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
" June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
" July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
" August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
" September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
" October ..	147	174	171	(b) 161	162	129	152	751	143	188	142	151	150
" November ..	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	131	152	684	147	182	142	152	148
" December ..	146	170	172	159	162	130	146	527	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January ..	146	170	173	159	162	126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
" February ..	148	171	172	(b) 160	160	124	143	632	146	165	140	150	146
" March ..	148	171	175	157	157	124	141	641	144	160	139	149	145
" April ..	(b) 145	170	173	157	159	122	140	637	143		138	149	144
" May ..	148		173	158			141		145		139	152	144
" June ..	147												

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100

† The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 „	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117	119	103		105 (m)
1916 „	108	148	102	115	117	116		146	140	106		118
1917 „	118	180	130	116	128	146		190	180	114		142
1918 „	149	203	146	118	144	197		253	229	118		174
1919 „	186	208	155	132	157	205		(d) 275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 „	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	307	253	155	(p) 341	200
1921 „	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	294	209	133	(p) 307	174
1922 „	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	251	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 „	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	238	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 „	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	169	132	(p) 366	173
1925 „	157	173	146	(a) 153	(l) 163	598	509	259	169	133	(p) 390	178 (m)
1926 January	155	175	155			665	527	232	167	131		
„ February	154	173	154		162	661	526	230	165	131		
„ March	155	172	154	156		654	521	225		131	451	
„ April	153	168	153			642	529	221		131		
„ May	153	167	152		163	652	558	220	160	132		
„ June	155	168	150	161		650	579	218	162	131	485	175
„ July	157	170	150			649	637	220	162	130		
„ August	155	170	150		163	652	681	219	161	130		
„ September	155	172	149	158		657	684	217	161	130	539	
„ October	155	174	148			672	705	218	161	131		
„ November	154	179	150		163	657	730	217	161	131		
„ December	156	179	151	157		657	741	213	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152			655	755	210	160	130		
„ February	155	172	151		162	667	770	208	160	130		
„ March	155	171	150			663	771	203	159	131	524	
„ April	153	165	148			651	774	201	158	131		
„ May	152	164	148		161		776	201				
„ June	154	163										
„ July	156											

(a) From 1914 to 1925 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (p) June figures.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c)100	(d)..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100(h)
1915 „	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	119(i)
1916 „	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917 „	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214(g)	181	166	178
1918 „	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 „	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250(i)
1920 „	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	245
1921 „	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	210
1922 „	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923 „	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f)496	105	968	136	218	160	188	166
1924 „	151	162	134	117	149(c)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	200	170
1925 „	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	210	167
„ December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	221	164	..	163
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(j)175	216	162	177	167
„ February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
„ March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	..
„ April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	..
„ May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
„ June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052	..	194	157	..	159
„ July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	159	159
„ August	153	161	150	117	157	149	...	587	660	193	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
„ September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
„ October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091	..	191	157	..	160
„ November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
„ December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	208	1,081	..	184	157	..	159
1927 January	155	167	153	116	159	148	156	592	625	208	1,063	166	180	156	156	158
„ February	152	164	151	117	153	146	153	585	642	212	1,064	..	177	153	..	157
„ March	152	162	149	118	151	146	151	581	635	205	1,055	168	173	151	..	156
„ April	151	155	146	119	151	145	151	580	617	204	1,034	..	169	151	..	156
„ May	150	154	145	..	152	145	..	589	..	..	..	..	169	150	..	..
„ June	151	154	..	..	..	145	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
„ July	154	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100).

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MAY AND JUNE 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay May 1927	Karachi May 1927	Ahmedabad May 1927	Sholapur May 1927	Poona May 1927	Bombay June 1927	Karachi June 1927	Ahmedabad June 1927	Sholapur June 1927	Poona June 1927
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund	7 6 3 *132*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	7 11 1 *133*	7 9 10 *136*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	8 7 10 *147*
Wheat	,,	7 8 3 *134*	6 2 6 *146*	6 3 5 *132*	7 4 1 *141*	8 0 0 *149*	7 5 8 *131*	5 10 7 *135*	6 2 6 *131*	7 1 9 *138*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	,,	5 9 10 *129*	4 7 7 *123*	5 0 8 *132*	3 14 6 *136*	5 3 10 *153*	5 6 8 *124*	4 7 1 *122*	5 0 0 *131*	3 14 6 *136*	4 15 3 *144*
Bajri	,,	5 12 4 *134*	5 0 0 *119*	5 12 3 *122*	4 2 4 *118*	5 9 10 *137*	5 12 4 *134*	5 0 0 *119*	5 11 5 *121*	4 2 4 *118*	5 9 10 *137*
Index No.—Cereals ..	..	*132*	*127*	*129*	*139*	*143*	*131*	*124*	*128*	*138*	*144*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 9 7 *153*	5 15 8 *157*	5 0 0 *125*	5 10 2 *131*	5 15 0 *122*	6 11 10 *156*	5 5 4 *140*	5 2 7 *129*	5 10 2 *131*	5 8 11 *114*
Turdal	,,	8 15 10 *154*	9 6 7 *141*	8 14 3 *144*	8 7 1 *145*	11 13 8 *179*	8 15 7 *154*	9 8 10 *143*	8 14 3 *144*	8 13 5 *151*	9 13 6 *149*
Index No.—Pulses ..	..	*154*	*149*	*135*	*138*	*151*	*155*	*142*	*137*	*141*	*132*

Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	13 11 1 *180*	12 1 2 *166*	13 5 4 *167*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	13 11 1 *180*	11 13 8 *163*	13 5 4 *161*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*
Jagri (gul)	„	13 1 6 *153*	11 6 10 *164*	11 6 10 *129*	8 0 0 *103*	7 14 9 *113*	13 1 6 *153*	9 4 5 *133*	10 10 8 *120*	8 6 9 *108*	8 5 0 *118*
Tea	Lb.	0 15 7 *200*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 5 *198*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*
Salt	Maund	3 3 6 *151*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 9 11 *139*	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 9 11 *139*
Beef	Seer	0 8 2 *158*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 11 *82*	0 3 0 *121*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 7 *166*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 11 *82*	0 3 0 *121*	0 6 0 *141*
Mutton	„	0 13 0 *195*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*	0 13 2 *197*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 *191*	7 12 11 *176*	10 10 8 *213*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	8 0 0 *180*	12 4 11 *246*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*
Ghee	„	94 0 9 *185*	73 2 5 *171*	74 6 8 *167*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	97 0 5 *191*	73 2 5 *171*	84 8 5 *190*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*
Potatoes	„	7 2 3 *159*	5 5 4 *98*	3 5 4 *88*	5 0 0 *125*	4 3 4 *125*	7 2 3 *159*	4 4 3 *79*	4 3 4 *111*	5 0 0 *125*	4 3 4 *125*
Onions	„	3 9 2 *230*	3 7 8 *191*	3 5 4 *167*	3 1 3 *123*	2 10 1 *131*	3 9 2 *230*	2 9 3 *142*	2 8 0 *125*	3 1 3 *123*	2 6 6 *120*
Cocoanut oil	„	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	27 15 7 *110*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*
Index No.—Other articles of food	..	*174*	*163*	*154*	*136*	*138*	*176*	*154*	*156*	*137*	*137*
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..	..	*162*	*153*	*146*	*137*	*140*	*163*	*146*	*147*	*137*	*138*

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1924									
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	165	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
May	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
June	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154
July	136	153	138	181	154	166	149	172	156

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour

VOL. VI] BOMBAY, AUGUST, 1927 [No. 12

The Month in Brief

THE INDIAN COTTON INDUSTRY

The Government of India have decided (1) to impose a specific duty of 1 anna and 6 pies per lb. on all imported yarn unless the value of the yarn exceeds Rs. 1-14-0 per lb. in which case 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty will be charged, (2) to reduce from 15 to 7½ per cent. the duty on artificial silk yarn and (3) to include in the list of machinery and mill stores to be exempted from duty, also bobbins, picking-sticks, roller skins, roller cloth, cleaner cloth and sizing flannel.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of July 1927. The average absenteeism was 8·36 per cent. for Bombay City, 0·40 per cent. for Viramgaum, 12·58 per cent. for Sholapur and 7·07 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 12·60 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 12·79 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·50 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 6·10.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In August 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 157 as against 156 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 155.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 147 for the month of July 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were five industrial disputes in the month of July 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 5271 and the number of working days lost 14,218.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During July 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 397 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for August 1927

A RISE OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914 .. { **All articles** .. **57 per cent.** / **Food only** .. **55 per cent.**

In August 1927,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay City was 1 point higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 156 in July and 157 in August 1927. The general index is thus 36 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 2 points higher than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles advanced by 1 point during the month. There was a fall of 2 points in jowari but the index number for cereals remained the same. Pulses, however, went up by 4 points owing to an increase of 4 points each in gram and turdal. Among other food articles, salt and potatoes rose by 13 points each, tea recorded a rise of 6 points and ghee of 4 points. Both beef and mutton registered a decrease of 8 points each. Cocoanut oil was lower by 3 points. The prices of the remaining articles were practically stationary during the month. The "other food" index advanced by 3 points to 184.

The "fuel and lighting" index remained stationary at 166. The index number for the clothing group rose by 3 points to 152.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

—	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	54	55
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	55	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	53
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	52
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	55	54
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	57	56
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	57
September .	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November .	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December ..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

* The prices on which the index is based are those collected between July 16 and August 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—AUGUST

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	July 1927	August 1927	July 1914	July 1927	August 1927
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5·594	7·693	7·693	391·58	538·51	538·51
Wheat	,,	21	5·594	7·432	7·432	117·47	156·07	156·07
Jowari	,,	11	4·354	5·781	5·693	47·89	63·59	62·68
Bajri	,,	6	4·313	5·771	5·771	25·88	34·63	34·63
Total—Cereals						582·82	794·80	791·89
Index Numbers—Cereals						*100*	*136*	*136*
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4 302	6·563	6·740	43·02	65·63	67·40
Turdal	,,	3	5·844	8·974	9·214	17·53	26·92	27·64
Total—Pulses						60·55	92·55	95·04
Index Numbers—Pulses						*100*	*153*	*157*
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	13·693	13·693	15·24	27·39	27·39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	,,	7	8·557	13·693	13·693	59·90	95 85	95·85
Tea	,,	$\frac{1}{40}$	40·000	77·776	79·917	1·00	1·94	2·00
Salt	,,	5	2 130	3·412	3·693	10·65	17·06	18·47
Beef	Seer	28	0·323	0·537	0·510	9·04	15 04	14·28
Mutton	,,	33	0·417	0·854	0·823	13·76	28·18	27·16
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	,,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	50·792	99·406	101·767	76·19	149·11	152·68
Potatoes	,,	11	4·479	7·740	8·333	49·27	85·14	91·66
Onions	,,	3	1·552	3 573	3·573	4·66	10·72	10·72
Cocoanut Oil	,,	$\frac{1}{2}$	25·396	28·573	27·974	12·70	14·29	13·99
Total—Other food articles						381·18	690·88	700·36
Index Numbers—Other food articles						*100*	*181*	*184*
Total—All food articles						1,024·55	1.576·23	1,587·29
Index Numbers—All food articles						*100*	*154*	*155*
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·656	7·656	21·88	38·28	38·28
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61 49	61·49
Coal	,,	1	0·542	0 771	0·771	0 54	0·77	0·77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60·44	100 54	100·54
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						*100*	*166*	*166*
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	0·906	0·922	16·04	24·46	24·89
Shirtings	,,	25	0·641	0·969	0·990	16·03	24·23	24·75
T. Cloths	,,	36	0·583	0·844	0·859	20·99	30·38	30·92
Total—Clothing						53·06	79·07	80·56
Index Numbers—Clothing						*100*	*149*	*152*
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House-rent						*100*	*172*	*172*
Grand Total						**1,251·07**	**1,959 24**	**1,962·70**
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						**100**	**156**	**157**

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in July and August 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer :—

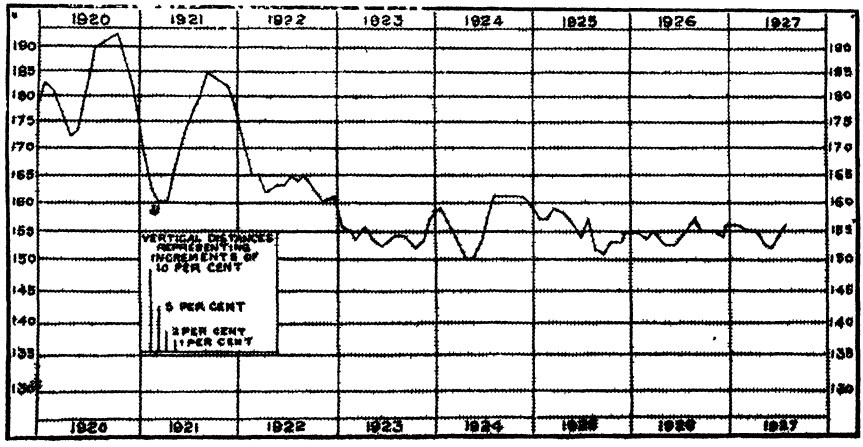
Articles	July 1914	July 1927	August 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in August 1927 over or below July 1927	Articles	July 1914	July 1927	August 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in August 1927 over or below July 1927
Rice .	100	138	138	.	Salt .	100	160	173	+13
Wheat .	100	133	133	..	Beef ..	100	166	158	— 8
Jowari ..	100	133	131	— 2	Mutton .	100	205	197	— 8
Bajri .	100	134	134	..	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram .	100	153	157	+ 4	Ghee .	100	196	200	+ 4
Turdal ..	100	154	158	+ 4	Potatoes ..	100	173	186	+13
Sugar (refined)	100	180	180		Onions ..	100	230	230	..
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	160	.	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	110	— 3
Tea ..	100	194	200	+ 6	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	154	155	+ 1

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences :—

Rice 28, Wheat 25, Jowari 24, Bajri 25, Gram 36, Turdal 37, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 37, Tea 50, Salt 42, Beef 37, Mutton 49, Milk 48, Ghee 50, Potatoes 46, Onions 57, Cocoanut Oil 9.

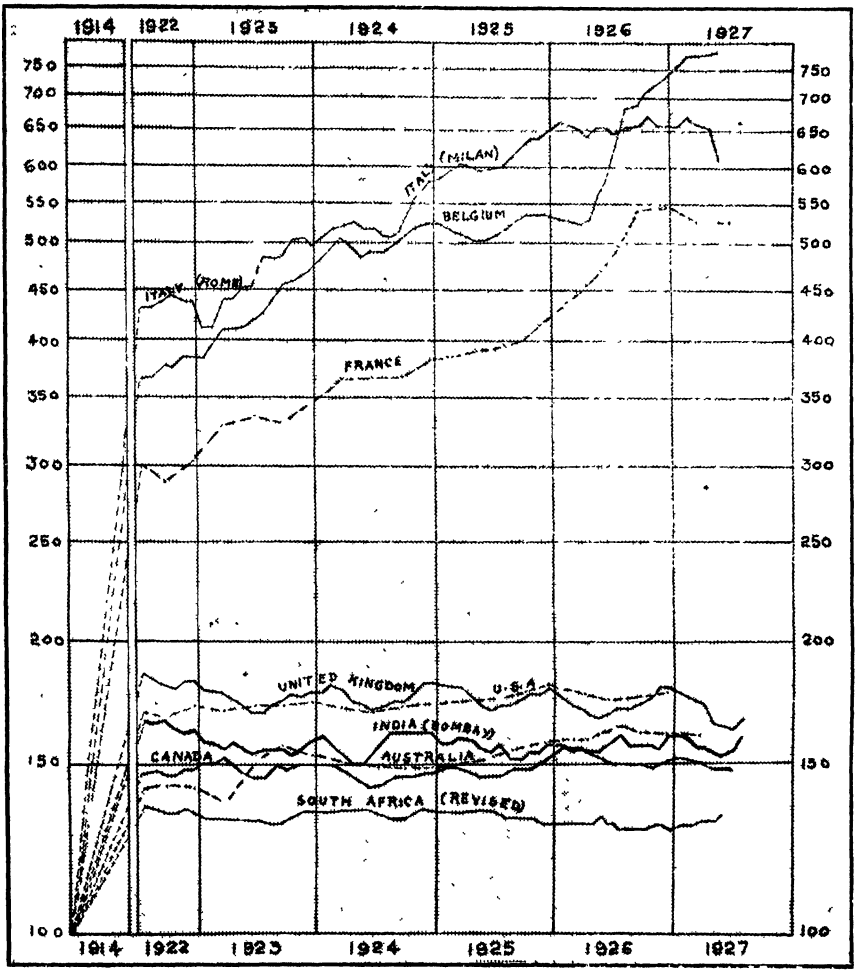
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914, its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 2 pies for all items and 10 annas 4 pies for food articles only.

Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos: (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Index remains stationary

In July 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 147, the same as in the previous month. As compared with the previous month, there was a fall of 2 points in the food group but the non-food group showed no change. The general index number was 116 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 2 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains recorded a fall of 3 points due to a fall of 4 points in Cereals and 1 point in Pulses. Rice, jowari and turdal remained stationary, while all the other food-grains declined in price, *viz.*, wheat by 5 points, barley by 6 points, bajri by 7 points and gram by 2 points.

A rise of 7 points in gul was partially counterbalanced by a fall of 4 points in sugar (refined), and the index number for the " Sugar " group advanced by 1 point to 130. The " Other food " group declined by 2 points to 162 owing to a decrease of 7 points in the price of turmeric.

Under the non-food group, there was a rise of 5 points in Raw cotton, of 2 points each in Cotton manufactures and Hides and skins, and of 3 points in Other raw and manufactured articles. Oilseeds declined by 2 points, Other textiles by 7 points and Metals by 6 points. The index number for the non-food group stood at 149.

The subjoined table compares July 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year:—

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay * — *100 = average of 1926*

Groups	No. of items	+ or − % compared with June 1927	+ or − % compared with July 1926	Groups	July 1926	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927	Apr. 1927	June 1927	July 1927
1. Cereals ..	7	— 3	— 5	1. Cereals ..	100	99	105	99	98	95
2. Pulses ..	2	— 1	+ 1	2. Pulses ..	102	102	106	99	103	102
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 1	—10	3. Sugar ..	96	96	59	89	86	87
4. Other food ..	3	— 1	+ 9	4. Other food ..	98	97	93	99	109	107
All food ..	15	— 1	— 1	All food ..	99	99	101	97	99	97
5. Oilseeds ..	4	— 1	+ 2	5. Oilseeds ..	104	99	103	107	108	107
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 3	+ 7	6. Raw cotton ..	103	106	81	91	106	110
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	+ 1	— 9	7. Cotton manufactures ..	102	94	88	91	91	93
8. Other textiles .	2	— 5	+ 9	8. Other textiles	95	98	99	99	109	104
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 1	— 5	9. Hides & skins	99	99	96	96	93	94
10. Metals ..	5	— 4	— 9	10. Metals ..	99	98	105	99	94	90
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+ 2	+ 7	11. Other raw and manufactur e d articles ..	97	100	105	103	103	105
All non-food ..	29	..	— 2	All non-food ..	100	98	96	97	98	98
General Index No.	44	..	— 1	General Index No.	100	99	98	97	99	99

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 1144.

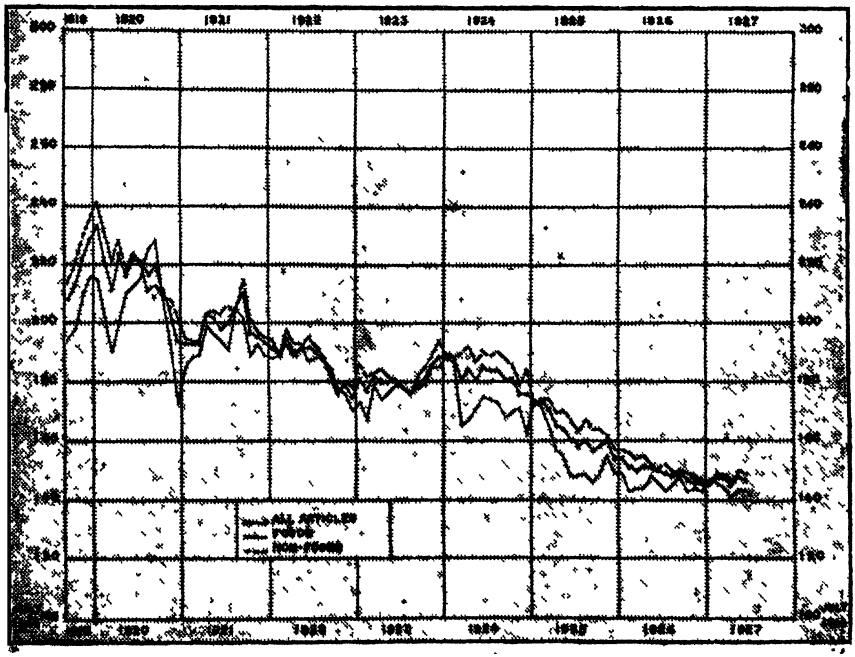
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918 .. .	171	269	236
„ „ 1919 ..	202	233	222
„ „ 1920 .	206	219	216
„ . 1921 ..	193	201	199
„ „ 1922 ..	186	187	187
„ „ 1923 . ..	179	182	181
„ „ 1924	173	188	182
„ „ 1925	155	167	163
„ „ 1926 .. .	145	152	149
Seven-monthly „ 1927	144	148	147

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

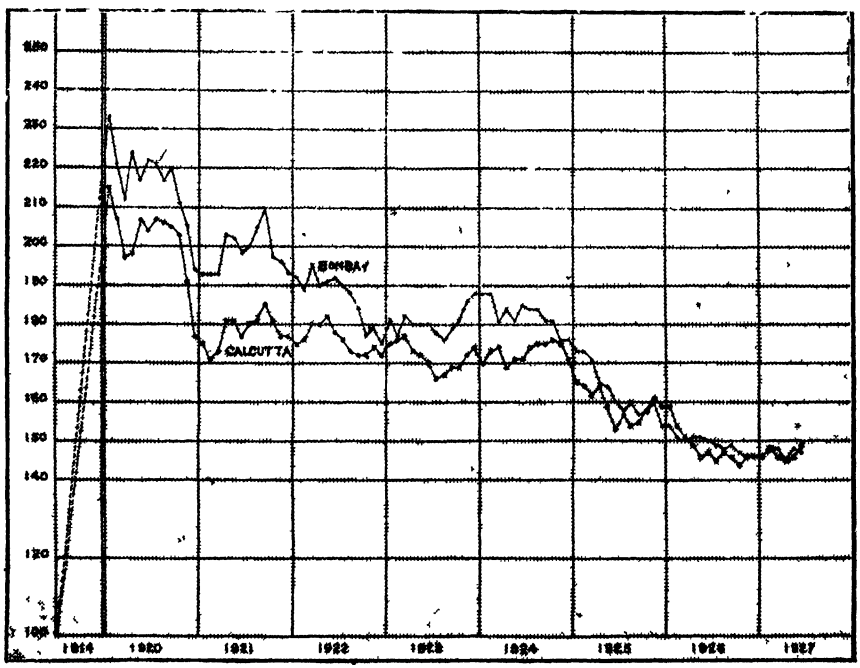


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

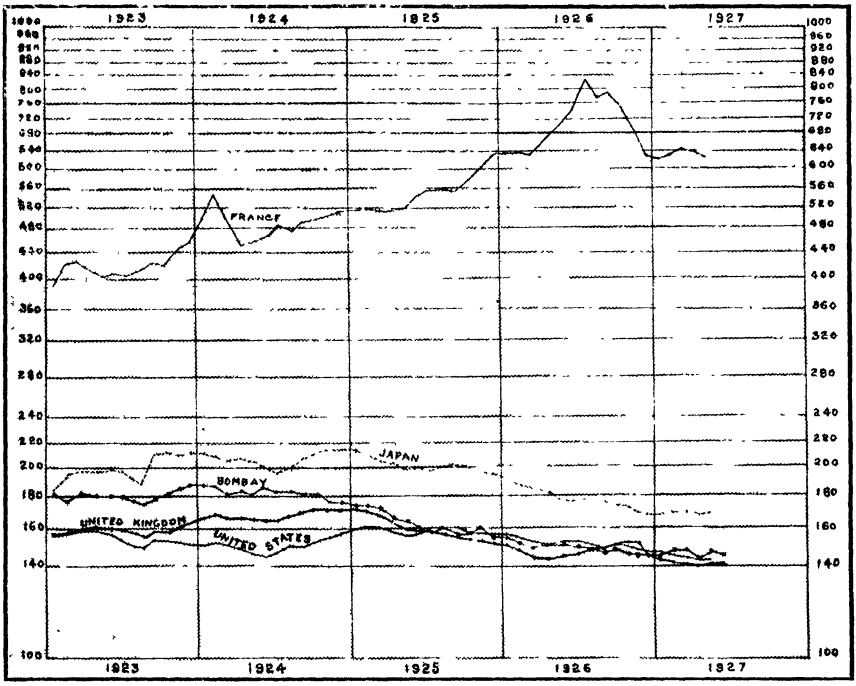
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, *i.e.*, the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 and in April 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are :—Bombay, the Labour Office ; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade ; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a table at the end of the *Gazette*. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are :—Canada, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics ; China (Shanghai), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai ; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance ; Java (Batavia), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in "*The Statist*."

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the London *Times*, and the three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas	July 1914	June 1927	July 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in July 1927 over or below	
							July 1914	June 1927
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As p.	As. p.
Rice ..	Rangoon Small-mill..	Paylee .	208	5 10	7 11	8 0	+2 2	+0 1
Wheat ..	Pissi Seoni ..	,,	204	5 10	7 6	7 7	+1 9	+0 1
Jowari ..	Best Sholapuri ..	,,	196	4 3	5 5	5 8	+1 5	+0 3
Bajri ..	Ghati ..	,,	208	4 7	6 0	6 0	+1 5	..
Gram ..	Delhi* ..	,,	188	4 4	6 4	6 2	+1 10	—0 2
Turdal ..	Cawnpore ..	,,	208	5 11	9 4	9 4	+3 5	..
Sugar (refined) ..	Java, white ..	Seer ..	28	1 1	1 11	1 11	+0 10	..
Raw Sugar (Gul)..	Sangli, middle quality	,, ..	28	1 2	1 10	1 11	+0 9	+0 1
Tea ..	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb ..	39	7 10	15 5	15 2	+7 4	—0 3
Salt ..	Bombay, black ..	Paylee .	176	1 9	2 11	3 0	+1 3	+0 1
Beef ..		Lb. ..	39	2 6	4 2	4 2	+1 8	..
Mutton ..		,, ..	39	3 0	6 5	6 8	+3 8	+0 3
Milk ..	Medium ..	Seer ..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	..
Ghee ..	Belgaum, Superior ..	,, ..	28	7 1	13 7	13 11	+6 10	+0 4
Potatoes ..	Ordinary ..	,, .	28	0 8	1 0	1 1	+0 5	+0 1
Onions ..	Nasik ..	,, ..	28	0 3	0 6	0 6	+0 3	..
Cocoanut oil ..	Middle quality ..	,, ..	28	3. 7	3 11	4 0	+0 5	+0 1

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat :—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Fergusson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices during July 1927 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains, rice and wheat rose by 1 pie each per paylee, jowari recorded a rise of 3 pies per paylee while gram declined by 2 pies per paylee. The price of bajri and turdal remained the same. Amongst other food articles, salt advanced by 1 pie per paylee and mutton by 3 pies per lb. Raw sugar (gul), potatoes and cocoanut oil rose by 1 pie each per seer and ghee by 4 pies per seer. The price of tea was lower by 3 pies per lb.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Mutton is more than double and onions are double the prewar price. Sugar (refined), tea, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent.; and raw sugar (gul), salt, beef and potatoes by more than 50 per cent. The rise in the prices of food-grains is between 30 and 60 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

* The equivalent in tolas shown in column 4 relates to Punjab gram.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in June and July 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in June and July 1927 :—

Articles	*Bombay prices in June 1927 = 100*					Articles	*Bombay prices in July 1927 = 100*				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	105	105	111	111	Rice ..	100	104	104	109	105
Wheat ..	100	77	84	97	109	Wheat ..	100	76	83	96	108
Jowari ..	100	82	92	72	91	Jowari ..	100	77	86	69	76
Bajri ..	100	87	99	72	97	Bajri ..	100	84	90	74	88
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	88	95	88	102	Cereals ..	100	85	93	87	94
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	79	77	84	82	Gram ..	100	82	79	85	83
Turdal ..	100	106	99	98	110	Turdal ..	100	105	99	110	114
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	93	88	91	96	Pulses ..	100	94	89	98	99
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (refined) ..	100	87	97	97	95	Sugar (refined) ..	100	85	93	97	95
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	71	81	64	63	Jagri (Gul).	100	62	78	64	65
Tea ..	100	101	101	116	107	Tea ..	100	103	103	118	108
Salt ..	100	60	69	106	79	Salt ..	100	65	67	103	85
Beef ..	100	105	57	35	70	Beef ..	100	105	60	47	70
Mutton ..	100	76	76	61	68	Mutton ..	100	73	73	59	66
Milk ..	100	45	70	76	76	Milk ..	100	45	57	65	76
Ghee ..	100	75	87	73	77	Ghee ..	100	74	86	77	75
Potatoes ..	100	60	59	70	59	Potatoes ..	100	80	74	98	64
Onions ..	100	72	70	86	67	Onions ..	100	91	70	86	74
Cocoa nut oil.	100	92	114	114	100	Cocoanut oil.	100	90	102	112	98
Average— Other articles of food ..	100	77	80	82	78	Average— Other articles of food ..	100	79	79	84	80
Average— All food articles ..	**100**	**81**	**85**	**84**	**86**	**Average— All food articles ..**	**100**	**82**	**83**	**86**	**85**

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles advanced by 1 point at Karachi and by 2 points at Sholapur and declined by 1 and 2 points respectively at Poona and Ahmedabad. Referring back to July 1926, it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles is lower by 4, 9, 3 and 6 points at Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona respectively.

Of individual articles, the relative price of rice, wheat, jowari, mutton and cocoanut oil decreased while that of tea, gram and potatoes increased at all the four mofussil centres. Both bajri and turdal declined at Karachi, were steady at Ahmedabad and advanced at Sholapur. The relative price of ghee was lower except at Sholapur. Sugar (refined) and gul registered a decrease at Karachi and Ahmedabad. Beef rose at Ahmedabad and Sholapur and was steady at the remaining two centres. The relative price of salt and onions was higher but that of milk was stationary at Karachi and Poona.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1927

Abbreviations:— S = *Scanty.* F = *Fair.* N = *Normal.* E = *Excess.*

Rainfall Division	June					July				August				September				October				
	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	7th	14th	21st	28th	5th	12th	19th	26th
I. Bombay Presidency																						
1 Sind River		F	S	S	S	S	F	N	N	N	N	E										
1 Sind Rainfall	N	N	S	S	S	E	S	F	S	E	S	S										
2 Gujarat	S	S	N	E	N	F	F	N	E	E	S	N										
3 Deccan	N	F	E	E	N	E	N	S	E	S	S	N										
4 Konkan	F	S	N	N	E	E	N	S	N	S	S	F										
II. Madras Presidency																						
1 Malabar	E	E	F	F	S	E	E	N	N	S	F	N										
2 Deccan	S	E	E	S	E	E	S	E	F	F	N	S										
3 Coast North	S	S	N	E	E	E	N	E	E	F	E	N										
4 South East	S	N	E	E	E	E	S	N	F	E	F	F										
III. Mysore	S	F	F	F	S	E	F	F	F	N	N	S										
IV. Hyderabad																						
1 North	S	F	E	E	E	N	N	S	E	S	F	N										
2 South	S	F	E	S	E	E	N	E	N	S	E	F										
V. Central Provinces																						
1 Berar	S	S	F	E	E	E	E	S	N	S	F	S										
2 West	S	S	F	E	F	E	E	N	E	S	F	F										
3 East	S	S	F	E	N	F	E	N	E	S	E	E										
VI. Central India																						
1 West	S	S	S	N	S	N	F	S	E	F	E	E										
2 East	E	S	S	F	S	S	N	N	E	F	S	F										
VII. Bengal Presidency	F	E	F	N	F	F	E	S	N	E	F	N										
VIII. Assam	S	E	N	N	E	E	E	E	S	E	N	E										
IX. Bihar & Orissa																						
1 Bihar	F	E	S	F	S	S	E	N	F	E	F	F										
2 Orissa	S	F	S	N	F	N	E	S	E	N	S	E										
3 Chota Nagpur	F	S	S	F	F	F	E	F	E	E	S	N										
X. United Provinces																						
1 East	E	S	S	N	S	N	E	N	F	E	F	E										
2 West	E	S	S	E	S	F	N	E	N	F	E	E										
XI. Punjab																						
1 East & North	E	S	F	S	S	N	E	N	E	F	F	E										
2 South West	E	N	F	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	S	S										
XII. Northwest Frontier	N	S	S	S	N	N	N	S	F	S	S	F										
XIII. Rajputana																						
1 West	S	S	E	S	S	S	N	F	E	F	S	N										
2 East	S	S	S	F	F	E	S	F	E	F	S	E										
XIV. Burma																						
1 Lower	E	N	N	F	F	N	N	F	E	F	N	N										
2 Upper	E	F	F	F	F	F	F	N	E	E	N	E										

NOTES—

"Normal" in the chart is a variation from 80 to 120 % of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120 % of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80 %; and "Scanty" below 40 %. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding Hill Stations

The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in July .. 5 Workpeople involved .. 5271

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during July 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word " dispute," in the official sense, means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with " strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in July 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in July 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in July 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in July 1927
	Started before 1st July	Started in July	Total		
Textile		5	5	5,271	14,218
Transport					
Engineering ..					
Metal					
Miscellaneous ..					
Total ..		5	5	5,271	14,218

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was five, all of which occurred in textile mills. One of the disputes occurred in Viramgaum, another in Chalisgaon, and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 5271 and the number of working days lost (*i.e.*, the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 14,218.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, March 1927 to July 1927

—	March 1927	April 1927	May 1927	June 1927	July 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	7	4	6	6	5
Disputes in progress at beginning	2	1		2	
Fresh disputes begun ..	5	3	6	4	5
Disputes ended ..	6	4	4	6	5
Disputes in progress at end.	1		2		
Number of workpeople involved	1,521	1,738	3,479	578 *	5,271
Aggregate duration in working days ..	5,987	3,298	29,688	694	14,218
Demands—					
Pay	3	1	4	4	2
Bonus					
Personal	4	2	2	1	1
Leave and hours ..					
Others		1		1	2
Results—					
In favour of employees..			1	2	
Compromised ..	1	2	1	1	1
In favour of employers..	5	2	2	3	4

The last table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers, the employees, or compromised.

III—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
August 1926 ..	7	7	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ,, ..	3	3	3	3,558	100	..	..
October ,, ..	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November ,, ..	4	4	3	3,094	67	..	33
December ,, ..	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927 ..	5	5	4	16,507	100	..	..
February ,, ..	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March ,, ..	7	5	6	5,987	83	..	17
April ,, ..	4	3	4	3,298	50	..	50
May ,, ..	6	6	4	29,688	50	25	25
June ,, ..	6	4	6	694	50	33	17
July ,, ..	5	5	5	14,218	80	..	20

* This figure excludes the number of workpeople involved in the two disputes which ended on 1st June 1927, causing no time loss during the month.

† This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning during the month of July 1927 was 5 as compared with 4 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople affected by these disputes was 5271 and the aggregate time loss amounted to 14,218 man-days. Two of these disputes arose over questions relating to wages, one over a question respecting the employment of particular persons and the remaining disputes were due to other causes. Settlements were effected in the case of all the disputes. Of these disputes, four ended in favour of the employers and the remaining dispute was compromised.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY

Three disputes were in progress in Bombay during the month under review. One of these disputes occurred in the Toyo Podar cotton mill. The management of this mill dispensed with the services of 10 weavers for inefficiency on the 5th July. The other weavers numbering 352, resenting the action of the management, struck work after the recess on the same day and demanded the re-instatement of the dismissed men. They also complained of ill-treatment by the weaving-master. The manager met the strikers in the afternoon and promised to look into their grievances if they resumed work immediately. The strikers, however, did not agree to this and dispersed quietly at 5-30 P.M. Next day a deputation of 20 strikers waited on the manager who explained to them that it was not possible for him to re-engage the dismissed men. The strikers, therefore, went away quietly at 9-30 A.M. The management put up a notice stating that the outstanding wages of the strikers would be paid to them on the 8th. As a result, 40 strikers resumed work unconditionally at 10 A.M. Next morning 60 other strikers resumed work and 20 more in the afternoon. The management employed 240 new hands. About 75 strikers became members of the Bombay Textile Labour Union, and two officials of this Union interviewed the manager with a view to getting the remaining strikers re-employed. As there were no vacancies, the manager promised to consider their case in connection with vacancies which might occur in future. The outstanding wages of the strikers were paid to them on the 8th and the mill worked with its full complement of weavers on the 9th. The strike thus ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute took place in the Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills. The weavers on night-shift were paid their wages for the month of June 1927 on the 7th July. On receiving their wages, 300 weavers did not

resume work complaining that their wages had been reduced and demanding more wages for the month of June. The manager explained that their wages had been paid according to their output and that there was no reduction in the rates. This did not satisfy the strikers who, therefore, left the mill quietly at 9 P.M. Work was resumed unconditionally by 92 strikers on the 8th and by 20 more on the 9th. There was no change in the situation till the 12th on which date the remaining strikers also resumed work and the strike ended. The result of this dispute was in favour of the employers.

The third dispute which occurred in the Swadeshi Mill at Kurla arose over the question of the infliction of fines for absence without leave. The mill was closed on the 10th July on account of a Hindu holiday. For two days in continuation of this holiday 124 workers absented themselves from work without permission. They were therefore fined Re. 1 each. As a protest against this fine, 191 workers struck work on the 14th. They also complained about the supply of bad raw cotton on account of which spinning could not be done well. In order to fill up the vacancies, the management obtained 50 new hands from Bombay. On the next day, 120 additional workers joined the strikers, and 175 women operatives were thrown out of work as a result of the strike. The management brought in 100 additional new hands from Bombay. There was no change in the situation till the 18th when 23 strikers resumed work. On the 19th, the Secretary of the Bombay Textile Labour Union opened negotiations with the management with a view to ending the strike but met with little success. On the 20th, 1000 other workers joined the strike and the mill was closed from that day. The strikers met on the 22nd and resolved to resume work if the fine was reduced to 2 annas per head. This the management agreed to do provided all the strikers resumed work. Work was accordingly resumed by all the strikers on the 23rd and the strike came to an end. This dispute ended in a compromise.

VIRAMGAUM

It is alleged that during the last four months the weavers in the Whittle and Maganlal Spinning and Weaving Mills were given damaged cloth amounting to Rs. 2462-4-0 in lieu of wages and were, in addition, fined to the extent of Rs. 1137-12-6. As a protest, 260 weavers struck work on the 21st July, and demanded that damaged cloth should not be given to them. Next day 138 strikers resumed work unconditionally. All the remaining strikers returned to work on the 23rd, and the strike came to an end. This dispute ended in favour of the employers.

CHALISGAON

The management of the Laxmi Narayan Mill notified their employees on the 1st April 1927 that their compensatory allowances would be reduced from 62½ per cent. to 40 per cent. in the case of permanent employees, and from 75 to 50 per cent. in the case of temporary hands with effect from the 1st June 1927. The wages for the month of June were paid on this basis

on the 23rd July. The workers demanded allowances at the old rates and as this was refused by the management, 500 struck work on the 24th July. The agent of the mill met the leading strikers the next day and explained that owing to financial stringency it was not possible for him to give the old rates of allowances. He stated that those who were unwilling to resume work under the present conditions would be paid off. Fifty-five strikers thereupon resumed work immediately and the remaining strikers returned to work on the 26th. The result of this dispute was also in favour of the employers.

Prosecutions under the Indian Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, July 1927

BOMBAY

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*a*) for breach of section 26 for employing certain persons in the recess time. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in one case and Rs. 5 in each of five cases.

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*f*) for breach of section 18 (1) (*c*) read with Rule 36 for not providing "nip" guard on the calendar machine. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

SHOLAPUR

A jobber in a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (*f*) for breach of section 18 (1) read with Rule 33 (*ii*) whereby a person was injured. The jobber was convicted and fined Rs. 10.

Employment Situation in July 1927

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 121 or 81·21 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of July 1927.

In Bombay City out of 79 mills which were working during the month, 77 or 97·47 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 8·36 per cent. as compared with 7·85 per cent. during June.

In Ahmedabad 59 mills were working during the month and 34 or 57·63 per cent. furnished information. The absenteeism figure cannot however be given owing to unsettled conditions in the industry caused by the rains.

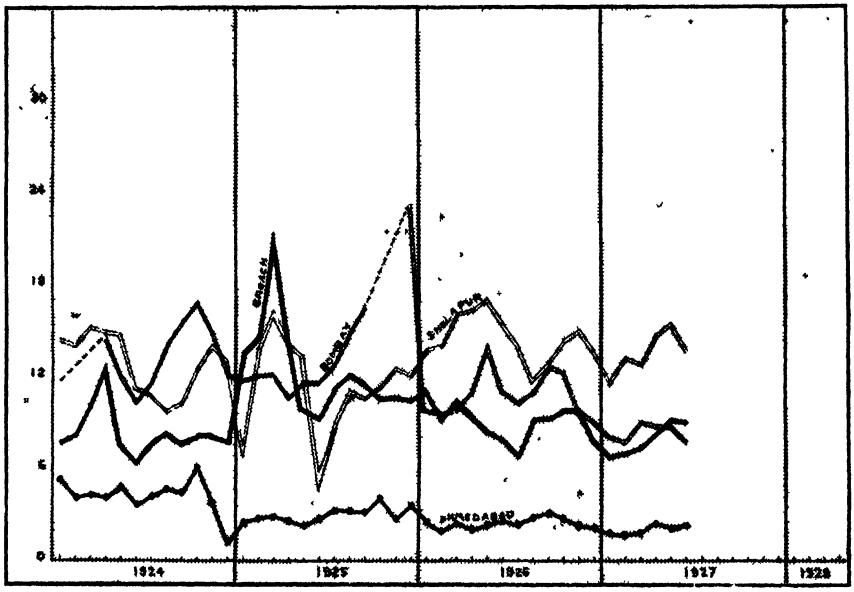
All the mills in Sholapur submitted returns and none of them reported any shortage in the supply of labour. The average absenteeism amounted to 12·58 per cent.

Only one of the two mills in Viramgaum furnished information. The supply of labour was reported as adequate. The percentage absenteeism amounted to 0·40.

All the three mills in Broach furnished returns. Only one of them reported that the supply of labour was short of the demand. The average absenteeism amounted to 7·07 per cent. as against 9·08 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was adequate in all the centres studied, whilst absenteeism decreased at all centres except Bombay.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative engineering workshops was 12·60 per cent. as against 14·59 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation Scheme absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 12·79 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 8·50 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 6·10 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during July 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of July 1927. Information was furnished by all Commissioners in the Presidency and out of a total number of 37 cases disposed of during the month 31 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The gross amount of compensation awarded during the month amounted to Rs. 19,222-12-0 as against Rs. 24,307-8-0 in the previous month and Rs. 20,294-8-9 in July 1926. Out of the 37 cases in which compensation was claimed, 12 were fatal accidents, one was of temporary disablement, two of permanent total disablement and the remaining 22 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 10 and in other industries to 27. The corresponding figures for July 1926 were 19 and 36.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 37, all of whom were adult males.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 20 were original claims and 17 registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in 18 cases, agreements were registered in 17 cases and two cases were dismissed.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

During the last month there were very heavy rains in Ahmedabad and considerable distress prevailed in all parts of the city. Houses collapsed; streets and vast areas were flooded with water; communications were disturbed and in some cases absolutely cut off. The mills had to be closed for about four days and some even for a longer period. Being poor, the labour population naturally suffered most.

THE LABOUR UNION

It is difficult to estimate the extent of loss and damage suffered by the labour population; but the following account may give some idea. The extent of unemployment caused by damage to the structures of the mills or their parts is not known; however, it is believed that it is not very great. According to the estimate of the Labour Union approximately 5800 workmen's tenements were destroyed—of these 2000 were proprietory, *i.e.*, belonged to the workmen themselves.

Labourers usually live by their daily wages; they have hardly any stock of grain or other food supplies and little cash with them. In cases where houses had fallen the residents had lost their clothes and all their belongings. Under these circumstances it was very necessary to help them; the Labour Union, therefore, came to their aid with food, clothing and other

necessaries. They distributed food to about 27,000 workers and clothing to about 800. Four mill-agents also gave food and clothing to labourers. Similarly other individuals and local bodies rendered considerable assistance. In order to be able to take proper steps for helping the labourers in distress a special meeting of the representatives of the Labour Union and some prominent people was held and it was resolved that for purposes of relief work the localities where labourers in distress lived should be divided into five circles, that committees should be appointed for these five areas or divisions, that there should be a principal committee and that necessary assistance in the form of food and clothing should be given after studying individual cases and wants. This relief work is still being continued.

Approximately 25,000 workers have been rendered homeless. The housing problem has become very acute. The labourers require money at cheap rates in order to be able to build or repair their houses. Building materials have risen in price and there is a fear that rents may go up as well.

A meeting of the representatives of the Labour Union resolved to carry on a strong agitation for the amendment of municipal bye-laws so as to prohibit the construction of weak and insanitary chawls. It also resolved to take the necessary steps for preventing the rise of rents consequent upon the destruction of so many houses in Ahmedabad.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th August 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

The weather and crop reports received so far go to show that except in two areas, the position regarding crops and rainfall in the Bombay Presidency is on the whole very satisfactory. The first of the two areas is the tract comprising the whole of Gujarat north of Broach where owing to the very excessive rains received in the last week of July very considerable damage has been done to all crops. The second area lies in the south-east of the Presidency and comprises roughly the eastern portions of Poona, Satara and Dharwar and a large part of the Sholapur and Bijapur districts where, owing to the deficiency of the rains, the position of the crops is far from satisfactory. Excepting these two areas, however, the conditions are almost ideal in most of the other parts of the Presidency. The actual situation, as it appears at the present moment, in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—

Gujarat.—Very excessive rains were received in the last week of July in a very large part of this division. These rains have been responsible for heavy floods which have done very extensive damage to crops in almost all areas north of Broach and also in a very large part of Kathiawar. It is reported from Gujarat that at least fifty per cent. of cotton, a still larger proportion of sesamum, as much as ninety per cent. of tobacco and a very considerable area under food crops have either been lost or very seriously

damaged in the areas to the north of Broach. The damage has been especially heavy in low-lying areas where whole fields have been completely washed away in certain sections of the Kaira, Ahmedabad and Broach Districts. At a rough estimate, the probable loss of cotton crop in Gujarat and Kathiawar is about 150,000 bales. Fortunately in many places the rains since the commencement of August have been only light and this has given the people an opportunity to resow their fields. This resowing is now being done on a very extensive scale and the cultivators are everywhere busy preparing their fields for sowing crops which are likely to be suitable at this time of the season.

Konkan.—Since the submission of the last report, the rainfall in this division has been generally satisfactory both as regards amount and distribution with the result that all agricultural operations are proceeding smoothly and the crops are showing a very healthy development almost every year.

Deccan and Karnatak.—The conditions in the west and centre of these two divisions are, on the whole, satisfactory as a result of the favourable weather conditions prevailing in these areas. In areas further east, however, comprising the south-east, Deccan, almost the whole of Bijapur and the north-eastern portion of Dharwar, the rainfall received has been far short of requirements with the result that the sowing of cotton has been hampered and the young crops are showing signs of distress owing to deficient moisture. As, however, this is essentially a *rabi* or late crop area, the deficiency of rain at this period need not cause any considerable anxiety.

Considerable damage is being done both in the Deccan (especially in Nasik) and in the Karnatak by grasshoppers which have damaged and in some cases destroyed the seedling Kharif crops.

Strike in Bombay Mills

AGENTS' STATEMENT

The following statement is issued by the Agents of the Apollo and Manchester Mills with reference to the strike:

"This strike is apparently due to misapprehensions and the Agents assert that there is no intention on the part of the Management of these two mills to attempt either directly or indirectly to reduce wages. The report of the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry), 1927, contains the following among other recommendations on page 209:—

No. 45 'The only alternative to a reduction in wages in the Bombay Mill Industry is increased labour efficiency and it is in this direction that the true line of advance lies.'

No. 49 'An increase in the number of looms attended by a weaver would tend to economy and give increased earnings to the weaver even when accompanied by a slight reduction in rate.'

No. 52 'Increased efficiency cannot be expected from operatives unless they are provided with suitable raw material. The existing

tendency to spin higher counts of yarn than the quality of the cotton warrants causes breakages and increases the work of the spinner and weaver.'

" With a view to meeting the intense competition from Japan on Grey Drills and Sheetings, the Agents of the E. D. Sassoon United Mills purchased the Hongkong Mills two years ago and renamed them the Manchester Mills with the definite intention of standardising labour in a manner similar to the method adopted in mills in other countries. To do this, it was necessary for the machinery to be completely renovated and a large amount of old machinery was scrapped and replaced by absolutely modern plant. The whole of the machinery not scrapped was completely overhauled, brought up-to-date and labour saving machinery was installed. The carding and spinning section of the mill at once adopted the idea of increased wages for increased work to the satisfaction of everybody concerned, as it resulted in increased production and better quality at reduced cost, at the same time increasing the wage per operative, although the number of operatives was slightly reduced.

GENESIS OF TROUBLE

" In the weaving section, to commence with, the standard Bombay practice of 2 looms per weaver was followed until January last, when technical modifications and improvements made it possible for us to experiment with one weaver on four looms. More than half of the increased pay was allocated to the weaver, the remainder going to the mills, part of which was utilised in providing interest on the extra plant and payment of the extra assistance, the balance being used for a reduction in the cost of production. To assist the weaver Recommendation No. 52 quoted above was carried out and better raw material was provided at the expense of the mills. The number of four loom weavers was gradually increased until last month, when 24 weavers were running 96 looms out of a total of 808 looms. The normal wage for a 2 loom weaver was Rs. 48 per month, while 4 loom weavers earned from Rs. 76 to Rs. 84 on drills and Rs. 66 to Rs. 72 on sheetings.

" On the 1st of August, it was decided that instead of 4 looms to a weaver, we should adopt the system of 3 looms per weaver and the rate was adjusted so that instead of receiving Rs. 48 per month on 2 looms, a weaver would receive Rs. 60 per month on 3 looms. Three out of the twenty-four 4 loom weavers objected to being taken off 4 looms and placed on three, but they were persuaded to take 3 looms and 144 looms were started, requiring 48 weavers. These continued to work satisfactorily, until brought out on strike in sympathy with the strikers at the Apollo Mills. The total number of men that would have been displaced by this experiment is 24 but this mill suffers in a similar manner to other Bombay mills, in that thirty spare weavers are required daily for absentees and no person willing to work would have been displaced by the experiment.

NO HARDSHIP INVOLVED

" Assurances were given to workpeople that in the event of any regular weaver not being able to find work at the Manchester Mill, employment would be found him on 2 looms at one of the Mills under the same Managing

Agents. They were also requested in the interest of the Bombay mill industry to give the system a six months' trial in order to ascertain the practicability of the Tariff Board's recommendations or otherwise. This they refused to do and alleged that sickness would become prevalent if they had to work so hard, although it is interesting to note that they were willing to work on 3 looms, if a *pro rata* wage for 2 looms was given, namely Rs. 72 instead of Rs. 60. Examination of the mill books shows that the percentage of absenteeism was, if anything, less with 4 loom weavers than with 2 loom weavers and completely refutes the suggestion that sickness would result, if men had 3 or 4 looms to attend to. It is also interesting to note that with the alterations made, the shuttle is changed 150 times per day on 3 looms whereas with 2 looms, 300 changes were necessary per day.

" In the Apollo Mill the conditions are much the same as in the Manchester Mill, except that in this Mill experiments on 3 and 4 loom weavers have only been conducted since last month. The average wage for 2 loom weavers for last month in this Mill was Rs. 51 and the average pay for 3 loom weavers was Rs. 66. At this Mill also, assurances were given that the number of 3 loom weavers would be increased slowly and every regular weaver displaced, would be found work at another Mill in the event of work not being available at the Apollo Mill. The weavers at this Mill came out on strike on the 1st and we immediately offered the option of working on the old system during August while the question of the adoption of 3 loom weaving on 168 looms for a six months' trial was under discussion. This was also refused and weavers were offered their pay for the month of July, but this they refused to take. In both mills the Spinning section of the mill was stopped through inability to continue without weavers and as a result about 3000 workpeople are idle.

WORKERS' CONTENTIONS

" Two contentions by the weavers are as follows: Less pay is given *pro rata*. This of course is true as the whole idea of the Mill authorities and the recommendations of the Tariff Board is that the weaver should do more work for an increased wage, but unless the rate was reduced, there would be no money available to pay for the extra assistance given to the weaver, to permit of the running of three looms, nor would the cost of production in Bombay be reduced.

" The second contention of the men is that sickness insurance should be granted by the Mill authorities, but this request cannot be entertained at all as it is a problem that affects the country as a whole and not an individual mill.

" Our desire is to give effect to the recommendations of the Tariff Board Report in reducing costs while at the same time giving increased remuneration to labour and we can only regret that our first attempt to carry out a small experiment in this direction has met with such antipathy on the part of the weavers of the Manchester and Apollo Mills." (*From "Times of India," Bombay, August 12, 1927.*)

Women in Industry

LOST TIME AMONG WOMEN WORKERS IN COTTON MILLS IN 1922

In the February 1927 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*, Washington, there is an interesting article on the above subject based on the results of the survey of cotton mill workers made in 1923 by the United States Women's Bureau. The enquiry related to 18 mills, employing 10,541 persons of whom 41·2 per cent. were women. Attendance records covering the calendar year 1922 were copied from the mill pay-rolls, and in addition home visits were made to 2354 women. Reports as to causes of absence were secured from 2214 and as to reasons for leaving their last job from 1066.

The time lost was for the women 21·9 per cent. and for the men 16·2 per cent. of possible working time. The study further shows the relation between long working hours and lost time. It is seen that in mills with scheduled daily hours of less than 10, men and women combined lost 13·2 per cent. of their time, women lost 16·3 per cent. and men 10·6 per cent.; in mills with scheduled daily hours of 10 or more, men and women combined lost 21·7 per cent. of their time, women lost 25·6 per cent. and men 19·2 per cent.

The number and percentages of days the women lost, by specified causes, were as follows :—

Cause	All Mills	
	Number	Per cent.
Personal	76,638	78·9
Mill Causes	18,924	19·5
General	1,601	1·6
Total ..	97,163	100·00

Of the personal causes illness was by far the most important accounting for 23·2 per cent. of the days lost. The time lost through mill causes over which the worker had no control accounted for nearly one-fifth of the total, while the time lost through such general causes as disputes, strikes, weather and the like accounted for only 1·8 per cent. of the total.

Fatigue in Industry

The first Summer School held under the auspices of the I.R.I. (International Association for the Study and Improvement of Human Relations and Conditions in Industry) has just completed its week of meetings at Baveno, Italy (June 19th-25th.) The subject chosen for study was " The Elimination of Unnecessary Fatigue in Industry " and

was the outcome of a discussion on the Human Element in Industry which took place at the meeting held the previous summer at the Rigi-Scheidegg, Switzerland.

Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth, American consulting engineer and psychologist, made a special trip from the United States to Italy to act as Chairman for this School, and the speakers were leaders in various fields that have to do with fatigue study. The entire group, lecturers and students, represented both sexes, coming from 15 nations, and with many types of education and experience.

A well balanced programme was presented by the ten lectures. Dr. Loriga of Rome and Mme. Thumen of Paris outlined the history of work in this field, and furnished not only an account but an evaluation that was most significant. Dr. Lipmann of Berlin in two lectures rich in information presented graphically and clearly present day knowledge on the length of work and rest periods. This was supplemented by lectures from Dr. Vernon and Mr. Weston, both of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, London, giving valuable and practical information of work being done in attempting to eliminate the evil effects of extremes of temperature, dust, damp and eye strain. These four lectures with one by Mr. Piacitelli of the Barber Asphalt Co., U. S. A., showing applications of fatigue elimination in industry, and especially in teaching new work, served to give a good idea of the fatigue study of today.

The remaining three lectures, given by Professor Pear of Manchester, England, indicated the relation of work to temperament and to self-expression. Professor Pear showed not only the underlying causes of much that has occurred, but suggested possible developments and stimulated the group to a new attack on the fundamental roots of fatigue.

As was to be expected from a group containing workers, managers, scientists, factory inspectors, social workers, etc., the discussion was prolonged and interesting, the main points of which will be incorporated along with the papers in the forthcoming report of the School, which may be obtained from the Secretariat Headquarters of the Association at Goethestrasse 10, Zuerich, Switzerland.

The results of these meetings can hardly be estimated so soon after being held, but it seems certain that while fatigue cannot as yet be measured adequately, it is being better defined, and much is being done to prevent unnecessary fatigue and to stimulate recovery from such fatigue as is necessary. This information is being collected and circulated, and valuable results to all concerned may be expected from its use, if it is sufficiently realised that modifications must be made to fit different needs.

The group unanimously agreed that more such Summer Schools should be undertaken. Next year brings the triennial Congress; but undoubtedly a School on some related subject will be held in the summer of 1929, since, under the direction of the I.R.I. which naturally stresses the universal human side of industry, an exchange of information and of view points from a group whose members are so varied and yet so co-operative, cannot fail to be of special value.

Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance in Greece

The Hellenic Government recently submitted to the Chamber a Bill for the establishment of employment exchanges and compulsory unemployment insurance for employees, manual workers and domestic servants.

The object of the Bill is to apply the Draft Convention and the Recommendation (Washington, 1919) concerning unemployment, and to combat unemployment by means of better distribution of labour throughout the country, the re-education of persons belonging to overcrowded branches of industry, the provision of various kinds of work for the unemployed and the grant of unemployment allowances up to a maximum of 50 per cent. of the wage for a period of eight weeks in the year.

The resources of the unemployment fund are to be supplied by an equal contribution from the employers and the workers and by a State contribution which will be conditional on improvement in the national economic situation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 25, 1927.*)

The Remuneration of Labour

IMPROVEMENTS IN TWENTY YEARS

The results of the official inquiry into earnings recently published by the Ministry of Labour indicate that the average remuneration of all classes of manual workers, excluding those employed in agriculture, at the present time approximates very closely to 50*s.* a week. This figure covers both males and females and workers of all ages employed in industry as wage-earners. It does not include the pay of salaried employees or clerks, and shop assistants are also excluded. The amount quoted includes the effect of the reduced earnings of those workpeople who were on short time. It covers, in fact, the operatives who were at work for the whole or part of the weeks for which particulars were obtained, but no account has been taken of those who were totally unemployed in those weeks.

The particular value of this estimate lies in the fact that it enables a comparison to be made with the results of similar inquiries which were made in 1886 and 1906. From the results of the 1886 inquiry it is possible to arrive at an estimate for all industries, other than agriculture, of about 20*s.* 6*d.* a week. For 1906 the figure is about 24*s.* 6*d.* There has thus been an increase of about 140 per cent. in average weekly earnings in the last 40 years, while in the last 20 years earnings have been rather more than doubled. So far as information is available as to the level of the cost of living at these dates, it indicates that the purchasing power of a week's earnings is a little higher than it was in 1906 and appreciably higher than it was 20 years earlier.

In considering the increases of 100 and 140 per cent. in average earnings referred to above it is necessary to notice that only a part of the increases is accounted for by advances in the recognized rates of wages per hour or

per week for various occupations and industries. Since 1906, for example, rates of wages have risen by only about 75 per cent. The factors which account for the excess, however, are not measurable. There has, for example, been some change in the proportions of relatively high and low paid workers; the percentage of piece-workers, who normally receive more than time-workers, has probably increased, while the proportion of juveniles has diminished, owing to the raising of the school-leaving age and the abolition of half-time working. There have been improvements in machinery which have tended to increase the earning capacity of the workers. Under this heading may be instanced the increased length of the mules introduced into the modern cotton-spinning mills in Lancashire. The effects of improved organization among the workers are also probably reflected in the earnings figures. One of the results of organization has been the levelling up of the wages both of individual operatives and of workers in low-paid areas.

It is perhaps necessary to emphasize the fact that the increases in earnings referred to relate to over-all averages, and that the position varies considerably as between one industry and another. In the coalmining industry, for example, the increase in earnings since 1906 is probably little more than 60 per cent. In the railway service, on the other hand, it is probably at least 150 per cent. A calculation recently published in the *Economist* showed that in the unsheltered industries, as a whole, the increase in the average earnings of male workers between 1906 and 1924 amounted to 95 per cent. and that for the sheltered industries to 140 per cent. These figures serve to show the extent of the diversity which exists. As trade improves the position in regard to earnings in the unsheltered industries will tend to improve, while it is doubtful whether the workers in the more fortunate industries will be required to make many, if any, sacrifices. It may be anticipated, therefore, that, on the whole, average earnings over all industries will show some increase, and that the 100 per cent. excess over 1906 will tend to be raised.

A consideration of earnings would be incomplete without some reference to other benefits which the worker of today enjoys, compared with the position 20 or 40 years ago. The latest figures available show that benefits paid out under the National Health Insurance scheme amount to about £26,000,000 a year, and those under the Unemployment Insurance Acts to nearly £45,000,000. Old-age pensions account for another £25,000,000 a year, and this amount will be increased in future years both by the addition of a larger number of pensioners and by the payments to widows and orphans of insured workers. The health and unemployment benefits are equivalent to something like 2*s.* a week for all insured workers. This benefit, together with the old-age and other pensions, is paid in return for a contribution which probably averages about half the amount. While it may not be strictly correct to add the equivalent of benefits to earnings, it is legitimate to assume that 20 or 40 years ago the worker had to provide for sickness, unemployment, and old age out of his earnings. The effect is that the amount of earnings available for the necessities of life, amusements, etc., today is appreciably more than double what it was in 1906.

Moreover, the average weekly earnings of 50*s.* are paid in respect of a week of between 47 and 48 hours, whereas the 20*s.* 6*d.* in 1886 and the 24*s.*

6*d.* in 1906 were paid for about 54½ hours. The worker thus earns very much more than double what he earned per hour in 1906, and has the benefit of seven or eight hours' additional leisure in the week. Arrangements have also been made in late years whereby the operatives in many industries receive payment for holidays, amounting in several instances to two weeks in the year. Other benefits, such as improvements in the amount of compensation for accidents, increased interest on savings, and many others might be instanced. Sufficient has been said, however, to indicate that, whatever may be the circumstances in individual occupations or industries, there has, on the whole, been a marked improvement in the financial position of the manual workers in the past 20 years, and a still greater improvement compared with the '80's. (*From "Times Trade and Engineering Supplement," London, June 25, 1927.*)

New Unemployment Bill in Denmark

Among the Social Bills at present under discussion in the Danish Rigsdag, is a Bill to amend the Act concerning employment exchanges and unemployment insurance, introduced by the Moderate-Liberal (agrarian) Government.

According to the memorandum accompanying the Bill, its chief object is to re-establish unemployment insurance on the actuarial basis on which it formerly rested, while at the same time alleviating the burden of the public unemployment funds, which increased considerably during the last ten years, owing to various extensions enacted.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

The Bill provides for an important re-organisation of the public employment exchanges. It is proposed that instead of the 81 existing exchanges, which involve an annual expenditure of about 540,000 Kr., and the utility of which is not considered proportionate to this cost, there should be one exchange in Copenhagen and one in each Province, or twenty-three in all. Each exchange should be managed by a director, who would work in close co-operation with the Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance Board. The local branch exchanges would be closed, but the Joint Employment Exchange Section of the Labour Board would be maintained.

This re-organisation is expected to result in an annual economy of 240,000 Kr. (80,000 Kr. for the State and 160,000 for the communes.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

With regard to unemployment insurance it is proposed that the State and communal subsidies to approved unemployment funds should be reduced. Under the existing Act the State subsidy is equivalent to 35 per cent. and the communal subsidy to 30 per cent. of the members' contributions to the unemployment funds. The Bill proposes that the percentage should be fixed in relation to the average annual earnings in the trades concerned. For earnings not exceeding 1500 Kr. the State subsidy would be equal to 40 per cent. and the communal subsidy to 35 per cent.

For earnings between 1500 Kr. and 2000 Kr. the percentages would be 35 and 30 respectively, and would fall by 5 for every increase of 500 Kr. in the annual earnings, subject, however, to a minimum percentage of 10 for the State and 5 for the communes in trades with annual earnings over 4000 Kr. The average annual earnings in a trade would be calculated by reference to the reports of the Statistical Department on wages and to the statistics compiled by the Unemployment Board.

The new arrangement is estimated to result in a saving of about 960,000 Kr. a year for the State, and of an equal amount for the communes.

The Bill further provides for the withdrawal of the special unemployment relief (continued benefit and additional benefit), which is paid under section 3 of the present Act, in trades in which there is exceptional unemployment, one-third being borne by the communes and two-thirds by the Central Unemployment Fund. In future, the unemployment funds supported by public subsidies and by subsidies from the Central Unemployment Fund, discussed below, would be bound so far as possible to provide for exceptional unemployment in their trades by increasing, for example, the number of days within 12 consecutive months during which benefit should be payable. The saving for the State and the communes on this item is estimated at 5,500,000 Kr.

The Central Unemployment Fund would be maintained, according to the Bill, but the State subsidy amounting to 10 per cent. of the ordinary members' contributions to the unemployment funds, at present 1·2 million Kr. a year, would be withdrawn. In addition, the employers' contributions to the Fund would be reduced from 5 Kr. per worker per annum to 3 Kr. per worker per annum. Employers would no longer be compelled to contribute to the Fund in respect of persons they employ who, owing to the fact that an unemployment fund is not or cannot be set up for their trade, (e.g., fishermen, actors), are normally unable to claim unemployment benefit.

The proposed reduction and exemption are estimated to result in a saving to employers of a total of about 1·4 million Kr.

The Bill stipulates for a sliding scale of contributions by employers according to the state of the Fund. When the reserves of the Central Unemployment Fund exceed 15 million Kr. the Minister of the Interior is to prescribe a general reduction in the employers' contributions, but when the Fund has fallen to 10 million Kr. the contributions should be raised to the former rates.

The resources of the Fund are to be used partly in grants of annual subsidies to approved unemployment funds, partly to subsidise emergency works and training courses for the unemployed, and partly to grant loans to the unemployment funds during periods of exceptional unemployment with a view to enabling them to meet their obligations.

The amount of the annual subsidy would be equal to one-third of the employers' annual contributions to the Fund (or if the employers' contribution is withdrawn, equal to the income of the Fund from interest on capital), but would not be allowed to exceed 10 per cent. of the total members' contributions of all funds. This amount would be allocated to

the funds in accordance with the ratios fixed annually for the allocation of the State subsidy.

The loans would be granted by the Minister of the Interior on recommendation of the Fund's Management Board (the Director, two employers and one representative of the unemployment funds) and would be advanced, only when there is exceptional unemployment in a trade, to those funds which have exhausted or are likely shortly to exhaust their reserves and which in the opinion of the Director are not in a position to raise the means they require to meet their obligations under the rules by increasing their members' contributions.

Subsidies to emergency works and courses of training for the unemployed would be granted in accordance with regulations similar to those already in force. The local emergency works committees would, however, be dissolved, and the Labour Committee of the Ministry of the Interior would become responsible for approving emergency works and the conditions relating to them.

The Bill proposes no substantial change in the conditions governing the payment of ordinary unemployment benefit by the approved unemployment funds, but it introduces certain minor amendments intended to ensure that benefit is granted only when necessary and reasonable. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 25, 1927.*)

Social Insurance in France

The French Senate has passed social insurance legislation dealing with sickness, invalidity and old age. Insurance is made compulsory for all unmarried wage-earners between the ages of 16 and 60, whether nationals or aliens, so long as their wages do not exceed 15,000 frs. per year; if the worker supports a child under 16, or other relatives (father or mother), the limit of compulsory insurance is raised to 18,000 frs.; if he has two children, to 20,000 and so on, 2,000 frs. being added to the income limit for each additional child, and no distinction being made between legitimate, illegitimate and adopted children: if a family allowance is received, this is not included in the wage maximum. Any French national is however allowed the option of insuring, provided that he is not over 50, that his wages do not exceed the limit given above, and that he can produce a medical certificate to prove that he has no serious or chronic disease. In addition to the contribution of the State, 10 per cent. of the wages of the workers are to be deducted for insurance, 5 per cent. being paid by the employer, and 5 per cent. by the worker. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, July 21, 1927.*)

Deductions from Wages or Payments in Respect of Fines

Proposed Legislation by the Government of India

VIEWS OF ORGANISATIONS CONSULTED BY THE LABOUR OFFICE

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1927, we published the Summary of the Report of the comprehensive enquiry conducted by the Labour Office on the subject of Deductions from Wages or Payments in respect of Fines in the Bombay Presidency, together with a copy of a covering letter issued to various interested bodies and associations asking for their views on the various questions raised in the circular letter of the Government of India which was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1926.

The following summary contains the classified views on the various points discussed by the principal non-official organisations consulted :—

Principle of Fines

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

No opinions.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

Fines are an easy way of maintaining discipline ; but their effect is short-lived. It is the considered opinion of the Committee of the Union that discipline can be best maintained by efficient supervision and moral control with the alternative of dismissal with proper and adequate safeguards as the last resort. It agrees with the evidence given before the Truck Committee by several persons who had experience in the administration of Truck Acts that fines were not in any way reformative and had practically no influence upon the character of offenders. Such influence as they had was of the moment only. The system did not lead to efficiency and did not weed out the real offenders. Fines, therefore, fail in their purpose and what is more, they leave a bad feeling behind them.

The Committee of the Union entirely agrees with the Minority Report of the British Truck Act Committee of 1906 when it says that " by stimulating a better system of control, a better selection of men and women for responsible posts, a better supervision not only of human beings, but of plant and materials and by ensuring a closer association of employers with the management of their works, we believe the abolition of fines would be an important contribution towards the development of national efficiency." In England many firms have abandoned disciplinary fines and have achieved at least as good, and often better results without their aid. In India too there are some establishments, particularly some branches in the postal and telegraph departments, where the system of fines does not exist and these departments have not suffered either in discipline or efficiency. The Committee therefore strongly advocates the abolition of fines altogether.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

Owing to the particular circumstances under which Indian workmen are situated, the Union does not consider it advisable to advocate a wholesale legal ban on every system of fines, and it recognises the inadvisability of completely depriving the employers of their power to fine.

In an educated self-respecting community of workers, public opinion, reputation, reward, sense of fairness and desire to excel would effectively replace all modes of punishment as incentives or motives for good work. In India, the workpeople's standard of life and intelligence is rather low. The supervising staff must not beat, abuse or otherwise illtreat workmen. They should not dismiss workmen except in extreme cases and in the last resort. In these circumstances a wholesale legal ban on every system of fine cannot be advocated with reason. Whilst the inadvisability of completely depriving the employers of their power to fine is recognised, the Union is convinced that legislation should once for all purge this power of all traces of autocracy and arbitrariness.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

Although the majority of the members of our Union would welcome a total abolition of all fines—and it would not be human nature if it would be otherwise—my Committee after a very careful consideration of this question are of the opinion that it is necessary in view of the present condition of education in this country that employers should retain some active power in their hands wherewith to command discipline. In making this admission the Committee desire to emphasise that discipline should be maintained more by the force of moral control with the power of dismissal as a last resort in the case of worthless workers. My Committee know of an instance of a local mill where during the regimé of an Indian Manager fining was seldom, if ever, resorted to for disciplinary purposes.

Central Labour Board

Though in our country, due to continual unemployment, want of skill and such other economic forces adversely governing the conditions of service, preference may be given by workers to fines only rather than to the alternatives of suspension or dismissals, yet it is for both the employer and the Government to determine whether such an impost is in its spirit essential and preferable. In Railway Workshops, Port Trusts and even in Government service, fines are indiscriminately imposed. There was recently a case where a Bhaya workman was fined Rs. 32 for one day's overstayal of leave owing to the train from Lucknow where he had gone not arriving in time to put the man down in his workshop at the appointed time.

Social Service League, Bombay

Believing that discipline can best be maintained by adequate supervision and moral control with the alternative of dismissal in the last resort, it is not necessary to allow the employers to inflict fines either for the purpose of maintaining discipline or for dealing with spoilt work. In Western countries many concerns of high standing and efficient management have

no recourse to fines. The power to fine employees is the shortest way to discipline and efficiency, but in the long run it proves the reverse of it, in that instead of proving a real deterrent, fines ultimately lead to corruption, injustice and discontent. When recourse to fines is open to the employers, their attention is diverted, except in the case of the few who are exceptionally enlightened, from the necessity of maintaining such efficient management as would dispense with the system of fines, and it is the firm conviction of the Committee of the League that without such efficient management real industrial progress cannot be achieved.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

It is considered that it is necessary to impose fines for the purpose of maintaining discipline.

Suspension

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The punishment of suspension is bad and indefensible. The Labour Office summary does not state for what kind of offences this punishment is meted out to the offenders. The Union is, therefore, unable to express any opinion as to whether this punishment is proportionate or not to the nature of the offence. But whatever the offence may be, the Committee takes very strong objection to and condemns the very nature of this punishment.

Social Service League, Bombay

The punishment of suspension is worse than punishment in the form of a fine. To suspend a workman from work for some days is to deprive him of a substantial amount of wages he would have otherwise earned, and also to subject him to a severer form of humiliation than that involved in the infliction of a fine. This kind of punishment also produces a very bad effect from the moral point of view as the compulsory idleness imposed upon the workman exposes him to undesirable temptations. Considered from this point of view suspension is much worse than dismissal. When a man is dismissed from service he has to find employment elsewhere and is therefore occupied in some way, while in the case of suspension he has only to wait till the period of suspension expires. On principle, therefore, this form of punishment is objectionable, and it may be reasonably doubted whether it can be justified even in the case of gross misconduct.

Dismissal

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The Committee of the Union is of opinion that the punishment of dismissal with proper safeguards will remain the last resort where efficient supervision and moral control fail to have any effect. But it recognises that the power to dismiss, if not used with proper safeguards, is likely to

cause the workers more harm than the power to fine. Machinery should be set up in each establishment with an adequate workers' representation thereon through their organisations where they exist, which should be authorised to go into the cases of dismissals and find out whether they are justified by the nature of the offence and whether they have been used as a last resort and after supervision had failed to achieve its purpose. Definite rules should be framed for dismissals and adequate safeguards should be included therein. With these precautions the workers will not suffer more, or even as much as they do under the system of fines.

Necessity of Legislation

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Chamber of Commerce

In the opinion of the Committee of the Chamber the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is not so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation to deal with it. The Committee are emphatically against any action being taken. They consider that any isolated cases where illogical and harassing fines may be inflicted are confined to small factories whose management is inefficient.

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

From the information available it is not considered that the system of fining is so much abused as to require special legislation. The Committee however suggest that under the rules of the Factories Act it should be made compulsory for all factories to keep a record of fines with the reasons for their infliction. These records should be made available for inspection by the Factory Inspector. After a year, the information so collected should be co-ordinated and the question of special legislation reconsidered. Should Government decide to move more rapidly in this matter, it is suggested that a further reference should be made so as to give those interested an opportunity of considering such legislation as is proposed.

Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

The Committee have carefully considered the results of the comprehensive enquiry conducted by the Labour Office into the matter under reference which clearly showed that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers was not so prevalent as to constitute an evil which would require penal legislation to deal with it. They do not see any necessity of action of the proposed nature.

Bombay Millowners' Association

In the opening paragraph of the Government of India's letter it is correctly stated that the system of inflicting fines upon workmen is common in Indian industrial establishments, but the Committee of the Association are surprised to learn that it has been suggested in the Central Legislature, in the Press, and elsewhere that the prevailing system constitutes an evil of such proportions that steps should be taken to abolish the system

altogether or to reduce it to such dimensions as to prevent abuse. This view, the Committee desire to point out, is altogether without foundation and could not possibly have emanated from well-informed quarters.

So far as the cotton textile industry is concerned, the existing system has worked very smoothly without causing discontent among the workpeople, and any disturbance in this system by legislative enactments on the lines indicated in the Government of India's letter is sure to cause resentment among the operatives themselves. The committee of the Association earnestly trust that in view of the facts disclosed by the investigations made by the Labour Office and in view of what has been stated above, Government will desist from launching on any legislation on the lines of the English Truck Act or other legislative enactments in force in Western countries.

Ahmedabad Millowners' Association

In view of the fact that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers does not constitute an evil of such proportion as to require any legislation, the Committee do not see any necessity for legislation in the matter. The infliction of fines is so small that it requires no other action.

Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation

In Engineering workshops the fines inflicted are so small and so infrequent as to be almost negligible and the system is most certainly *not so* prevalent as to constitute an evil or to require penal legislation. It is *not* considered that any action whatever is desirable or necessary.

Chairman, Bombay Port Trust

The system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is not so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation to deal with it ; but, all amounts collected by the infliction of fines should be credited to a special Fines Fund to be utilised for the benefit and welfare of the classes of workers from whom the fines are collected.

Karachi Port Trust

The system of inflicting fines is not considered to be so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation to deal with it. If, however, the amount of fines imposed in different establishments are reported at regular intervals to the Factory Inspector or other Government department concerned, the situation could be carefully watched.

Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality

" I am not in a position to express any general opinion on the system of fines prevailing in factories Action may however be taken by amending the Indian Factories Act so as to obtain powers to regulate the fining of servants or workers."

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

From the statistics furnished it appears that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is not so prevalent as to require penal legislation ; but legislation should be undertaken prescribing a maximum limit of

fine, disposal of fines for welfare work, and for rules and regulations under which fines may be imposed, etc.

Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway

The aims which the suggestions in the letter from the Government of India seek to attain are reflected in the policy obtaining in the administration of the B. B. & C. I. Railway and in the practical results of its working. No action therefore seems to be necessary as far as railway administrations are concerned.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

Though the Committee is strongly of opinion that the system of fines both for discipline and bad or negligent work should be abolished by law, it is afraid that under the existing conditions and the capitalistic influence which pervades everywhere, its suggestions may not be accepted either by Government or by the Legislatures. The Committee, therefore, thinks it safer to make an alternative proposal that, if the fines are not altogether abolished by law, they should be at least controlled and regulated in such a way that they should not be a source of profit to the employers or a cause of burden to the employee. The Government of India have admitted in their letter of 25th June 1926 that the system of fines is liable to abuse and that it is more so where the workers are ignorant and have no strong trade union organisations to resist unfair imposts. The Committee therefore urges upon the Government of India with all the emphasis at its command that if they are unable to agree to the total abolition of fines, they should at least take immediate steps to introduce legislation which will effectively control the system of fines and check its abuse.

From the information supplied by the Labour Office it is seen that the system of imposing fines obtains in all the textile mills, all the public utility establishments and offices of steamship lines, most of the municipalities, Government and other non-factory establishments and Government and Local Fund factories which supplied information. The number of concerns in which fines are inflicted seems small as compared with the number of concerns which sent the returns, but the Committee is of opinion that in such matters the criterion to decide whether the system of fines is general or not should be, not the number of concerns, but the number of persons employed in them. A factory employing 5000 workers may have a system of fines and half a dozen other factories employing in all 1000 workers may not have it. Here 5000 out of 6000 workers are subjected to the system of fines, and therefore the only conclusion that one can draw from these figures is that the fines are imposed on a large majority of workers even though they are confined to one concern only. The Committee is thus of opinion that if the proportion of the numbers of the workers in those concerns in which fines are inflicted to the total number of persons employed in all the concerns which have sent the returns is taken into account, it will be seen that a vast majority of the workers in the Presidency come under the system of fines. Textile mills, railway workshops, port trust docks are some of the concerns in which a very large number of

workers are employed and in all of them, according to the Summary of the Labour Office, the system of fines prevails. Therefore the extent of fines is indeed much wider than what is shown by the number of concerns and is one which calls for the serious attention of Government.

(The criticisms made above by the Bombay Textile Labour Union are sound. It was not possible however to give comparative figures of the type indicated by the Union because all the schedules returned for the enquiry did not give the number of workpeople employed in the different concerns covered. In many cases where statistics of fines were given, the numbers of workers were not stated and *vice versa*. Since receiving the letter of the Union a special tabulation has been made in connection with this matter in respect of all concerns which gave the number of workpeople employed and which stated whether fines were inflicted or not. The results of this tabulation show that the system of fining prevails in concerns employing about 300,000 workers as against the non-prevalence of the system in concerns covering 25,675 workers. These figures however cannot be published owing to the fact that the majority of the concerns which fined gave the numbers of workpeople employed whereas most of the concerns in which the system of fining does not exist returned the schedules blank. However, it is believed that the Union are correct when they say that the system of fining covers the majority of workers of all classes in the Bombay Presidency.....Officer-in-charge, Labour Office.)

The summary of the report of the Labour Office enquiry gives figures for the average incidence of fining for different kinds of offences and percentages of fines inflicted to the total wages bill. The Union is unable to accept these figures and the calculations based thereon as accurate and it feels that they are misleading for many reasons. In the first place, the imposition of fines inflicted during the period of enquiry may be less than that in a normal period and, therefore, the averages based on such figures are bound to be less. Secondly, the Labour Office could not ascertain whether complete and accurate figures had been given by all the mills who sent in the returns. Nor was it possible for it to check and verify the figures submitted by them. Thirdly, there are certain types of punishments in the nature of fines the money value of which could not have found a place in the account books of the mills and, therefore, they could not have been taken into account in preparing the tables of the summary and striking the averages. For example, take the punishment of suspension. The loss sustained by the worker, which is bound to vary according to the period of suspension, cannot possibly find a place in terms of its money value in the mill books, and therefore cannot have been taken into account. Withholding and forfeiture of wages are fines prescribed for some offences; but they are not credited in the mill accounts under "fines" but under "unclaimed wages." Similar is the case as regards fines for lateness and non-attendance. The Committee is not aware that the full wages of the worker for the day or days on which he comes late are written in the pay sheets and then the part of them for the period of lateness are deducted and credited to the fines column. If this procedure is followed, then only deductions for lateness can be found under the fines head. In the case of "Double Khada" the worker may be marked absent for the days of his non-attendance *plus* an equal number of additional days out of the days on which he was present and he may be paid for the rest of the period. In all these cases, the deductions in terms of their money value have not been included in the schedules or the summary. Fourthly, in the case of spoilt cloth handed over to the worker, the loss suffered by the worker has not been taken into account on the ground that this loss could not be ascertained. For all these reasons, the figures given in the schedules of the

summary are faulty and misleading and cannot be taken as a true index of the real extent to which the workers suffer on account of fines.

(The Labour Office is unable to accept the statement made by the Union to the effect that the imposition of fines inflicted during the period of enquiry might have been less than in a normal period. The reason advanced by the Union for making this assertion is that employers in the textile industry in Bombay city could not have resorted to fining, during the first few months of the year 1926, to such an extent as they ordinarily would during a normal period, as there must have been intensive production after the general strike of the year 1925 lasting over three months and a tendency to irritate the workers as little as possible by the imposition of fines. Mr. Rowland Barran, M.P. of Messrs. John Barran & Sons, Ltd., Leeds, in giving evidence before the Truck Committee of 1906-08, said that in the two years 1902 and 1903 which were very busy years in England the workhands were earning good wages and it was impossible to get them to the factory punctually. These were the heaviest years for fines principally on account of lateness in attendance. There was further evidence produced that excessive fining is particularly associated with more intensive production. The Labour Office has compiled a statement of the production of yarn and cloth in the textile mills in Bombay city for the first four months of the years 1923, 1925, 1926 and 1927 in order to examine whether there was more intensified production in the first four months of the year 1926. The following is a summary of this statement :—

	Production in pounds during the first four months of the year			
	1923	1925	1926	1927
		(000 omitted)		
Yarn	109,552	116,721	113,299	114,216
Woven goods	58,690	71,069	74,656	88,739

An examination of the above figures shows that with the exception of the production of woven goods in 1923, there was no greater production in the first few months of the year 1926 than in the other years considered. Figures for 1924 were not compiled as the general strike on the Bonus Dispute occurred at the beginning of that year.

With regard to the question of the accuracy of the information furnished in the schedules for the enquiry it has already been stated in the Report that the results of the enquiry have been given on the assumption that the information supplied by employers was correct.

With reference to the question of the figures given for total amounts of fines inflicted it is necessary to emphasise that these figures represent actual deductions from wages in respect of fines and that these figures take no account of forfeitures and withholding of wages, etc.,—points which were not covered by the enquiry statistically.

The question with regard to the handing over of spoilt material to the worker concerned has been fully dealt with in the Report and full statistics have been given on the information available.

The Labour Office admits that its enquiry was limited in character in several respects, but it does not admit that the statistical tables in the summary are faulty and misleading.....Officer-in-Charge, Labour Office.)

The necessity for legislation prohibiting or regularising the system of fines can be determined by (1) the extent to which it obtains in different establishments ; (2) by the nature of offences for which fines are inflicted and of punishments ; and (3) by the amount of fines levied on the workers. The various comments made by the Union on the several points comprised under the second head have been dealt with *seriatim* under the separate points discussed. The conclusions that the Union has reached with regard to the necessity for legislation are as follows :—

(1) That a vast majority of the industrial workers in the Bombay Presidency come under the system of fines ;

(2) That there are contracts between the employers and the employees containing the terms of the latter's employment ; but for reasons given they are practically null and void ;

(3) That the terms in the contracts are onesided and arbitrary and they place in the hands of the managers very wide powers without any restrictions ;

(4) That the power to fine is exercised in actual practice even by jobbers, head-jobbers, mukadams, etc. ;

(5) That there is no limit prescribed for the maximum amount of fines ;

(6) That more than one punishment of varying severity is prescribed for the same offence and the mill authorities have the widest discretion in deciding which acts of the workers come under breaches of discipline, insubordination and disobedience ;

(7) That there are some fines such as "double khada," suspension and forfeiture of wages which are both morally and legally indefensible ;

(8) That deductions made for bad or negligent work are not, in all cases, corrective fines but they are compensatory ;

(9) That the workers who are given spoilt cloth suffer much more than is shown in the summary of the Report of the Labour Office enquiry ;

(10) That the figures and averages of fines given in the summary are misleading. They fail to give a correct idea about extent and incidence of fines owing to the fact that several factors such as forfeiture of wages, withholding of wages, loss of wages due to absence, etc., have not been considered or provided for in ascertaining the final averages.

The Committee of the Union is therefore emphatically of the opinion that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportion as to require penal legislation to deal with it. It is further of opinion that this legislation should be taken in hand as soon as possible.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

Proper and humane conditions of work in industrial establishments depend very largely on the strength and knowledge of the employees on the one hand, and the humanity and sense of justice of the employers on the other. But in the present state of workmen's organisations and employers' enlightenment in this country, the protection afforded by collective bargaining is far more precarious than in the advanced countries of the West. Even in those European and American industries in which the workpeople have set up for themselves a sound, strong end almost perfect organisation, Government have to step in to draw a ring of safety round such relations between employers and employees as are likely to give rise to grave evils if left in an unregulated condition. The state in India will find many more occasions for interference. It would be called upon to invest with legislative security many matters which are today governed by custom, caprice or contract. The question of fines, forfeitures and deductions is a glaring instance of this kind.

" We have at this moment on our list of pending complaints no less than a score which relate to unjust penalties of this nature. One of them is worth citing. A spinning master imposed on more than half a dozen men a fine of Re. 1 per head for approaching the Agent in connection with a complaint which was eventually decided in the men's favour. The grounds

of punishment in other cases are nearly as flimsy as in this. There is no doubt in our mind as to the acute need of immediate legislation on the subject of fines and deductions."

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

After a careful consideration of the material made available in the summary of the Labour Office Report the Committee of the Union have arrived at the conclusion that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers in the Bombay Presidency is so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation to deal with it. In this connection it is necessary to state that the figures for the averages which have been worked out by the Labour Office do not afford sufficient proof that the system of fining in the Bombay Presidency is not abused, inasmuch as it is impossible, on a consideration of totals, to state definitely, one way or the other, whether excessive fining is or is not resorted to in many individual instances. In view of the fact that the executive of the Girni Kamgar Mahamandal is composed entirely of actual workers in the cotton mill industry each of whom has had several years of experience with regard to the systems of fining and discipline that obtain in the different mills in Bombay city, the Committee know of instances where excessive punishments have been inflicted on the flimsiest grounds and where the untrammelled and uncontrolled power of punishment which is left in the hands of the employers has been abused to a considerable extent. The necessity for legislation for the control of fines should not be determined only with regard to the question of the extent to which the system is abused, but also with regard to the several details in connection with its administration, *i.e.*, power of fining, limit of fining, utilisation of fines, etc. These points are dealt with under separate headings.

Central Labour Board

The extent of the practice of deducting wages from payments or imposing fines exercised in industrial concerns by the employers is indeed great and their powers are in this respect unlimited. Steps are required to be taken to minimise the evil of the system as far as possible or to abolish the system altogether.

The misfortune is further aggravated by the employer who imposes fines acting both as prosecutor and judge. Under the present conditions as a result of want of organisation among the men, such injustices and inequities are not detected. The system of victimization is so powerful that even though workers may be literate only minor results can be achieved in fighting against unfair imposts. In the whole machinery of labour administration the greatest weakness lies in the persistence with which men are and can be victimized by petty subordinates. No legislative measure has as yet been enacted against victimization. Even the Trade Unions cannot make much headway against it and the Unions' incapability to withstand it has adversely affected their membership.

The Unions affiliated to the Central Labour Board are of opinion that workers' committees should be enforced in every industrial factory by law. To these committees the differences between the employers and the employees should be submitted with reference to the desirability or otherwise

of effecting deductions in payments which should be the final condition after all reformative measures have been exhausted for the correction of workers' faults. As far as possible the employers and the employees should be given facilities to settle their differences among themselves. Any interference by legislation when a dispute has actually arisen does not help much nor is the assistance of a permanent character.

Law has its limitations and it is therefore suggested that even if some legislation were introduced it may be done on such lines as will determine the necessary interference of the Joint Councils of representatives of employers and employees.

Social Service League, Bombay

The Committee of the League is of opinion that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation to deal with it. The results of the enquiry carried out by the Labour Office prove the existence of the evil to such an extent that it can no longer be ignored. Moreover, there are establishments which have failed to reply, and it may be surmised that though a few of them may have done so through negligence or indifference the majority avoided the task for fear of exposure, and therefore the conditions prevailing in these establishments may be taken as far worse than those obtaining in the concerns which have taken the trouble to send the required information.

(The assumption made by the League in the last sentence of the above note necessitates qualification. This may be correct to a certain degree, but an examination of the returns shows that the greater majority of the larger organisations and concerns in all industries furnished returns—Officer-in-Charge, Labour Office.)

Even supposing that it is necessary in the interest of discipline and careful work that the employer should possess some power to inflict fines, it is quite plain that such power should not be unrestricted and that the workmen should not be left at the mercy of their immediate superiors whose recommendations for fines are generally accepted without question by the manager or the owner. The results of the enquiry leave no doubt as to the necessity of affording legal protection to the workers in the matter of deductions from their wages.

If the system of fines and other deductions is not to be altogether abolished, it is recommended that legislation be framed providing such restrictions and conditions on the system as would prevent it from being either a source of profit to the employer or a cause of improper or harsh treatment to the workers. The main suggestions made by the majority of the English Truck Committee of 1906-08 as stated in the circular letter of the Government of India should be adopted as the basis of the Indian Truck Act.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

The Committee of the Sabha is unanimous in thinking that the system of inflicting fines on industrial workers is so prevalent as to constitute an evil of such proportions as to require penal legislation for its prevention.

The Committee of the Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha is sanguine that the Government of India will take the matter in hand and get legislation passed early so that the workers will be protected from arbitrary, inequitable and unfair deductions of wages.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

The Association's proposals for legislation have been dealt with under each of the several points covered. No definite opinion has been expressed on the necessity for legislation but the inference that can be drawn from their letter is that they consider legislation to be necessary.

Fines for Breaches of Discipline

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The Labour Office summary states that fines are inflicted for breaches of discipline, insubordination, disobedience, bad or negligent work, loss of or damage to tools or machinery, etc., and that lateness and non-attendance are also fined. "Discipline" not being defined in the mill rules, any act on the part of the worker to which the mill authorities take an objection or which is disagreeable to them, may come under the category of discipline and the worker may be fined according to the discretion of the mill authorities. Discipline, insubordination and disobedience are too wide terms and the Union knows from experience that even petty quarrels between workers are brought under one of these terms and they are either fined or even dismissed. In the opinion of the committee widest discretion is given to the mill authorities to determine the nature of offences and also of punishments in so far as fines for breaches of discipline are concerned. The summary of the enquiry does not state whether, before fining the worker, proper enquiries are made as to whether he was really at fault, and, if so, whether the fine imposed on him is not disproportionate to the nature of the offence. So far as the information of the committee goes, in most of the mills no such enquiries are made, and even if the worker carries his complaint to the higher authorities, the recommendation of the petty officials is generally held as the final word on the subject.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

The workman is at the mercy of the whims and fancies of an unfair and inconsiderate employer who enjoys an unlimited power to fine. The law should rectify this defect by providing a precise and exhaustive schedule of offences outside the scope of which any imposition of fine should be made a penal offence.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

There should be a complete list of all the offences for which fines may be inflicted and the amounts of fines in each case. The fines should, in all cases, be reasonable and the question of reasonableness should be decided and determined by the inspecting authority to whom the list of fines is sent for approval.

It is not sufficient to state that fines will be inflicted for breaches of discipline, insubordination or misbehaviour unless it is clearly specified what acts or omissions on the part of the workers come under each head.

Fines for Bad and Negligent Work

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The Labour Office summary states that " deductions made from wages in respect of actual fines for bad or negligent work do not appear to cover the loss sustained by the employer with regard to the spoilt or damaged article, but appear to be, in most cases, *bona fide* fines inflicted as correctives." The Committee does not accept this statement and states most emphatically that fines inflicted for bad and negligent work in the Bombay Mills are not corrective fines but compensatory fines. In this connection the Committee agrees with the following opinion of the Minority Report of the Truck Act Committee :—" The recognition of bad work as a subject for discipline, and the consequent inclusion of its penalties among fines, does not diminish or even touch the dangers of the system. Those dangers have been clearly established by the evidence and are acknowledged in the report. We do not labour them ; but we point out that an employer may as unjustly attribute to the carelessness of the worker—(often powerless to bring rebutting proof)—a fault in fact due to some defect in his own plant or materials, and may as successfully penalise him under one system as under the other. The deduction for bad work becomes the disciplinary fine for carelessness ; a worker, helpless in one case, is helpless in the other. Where the fault is in fact one of carelessness and its repetition is continued, stronger measures, in our opinion, would serve best the lasting interest of both worker and employer."

The dangers referred to in the above quotation are the extreme difficulty in finding out whether the pieces were spoilt owing to the worker's negligence, defective machinery or bad raw material and the employers' tendency to decide such cases in their own favour. The Majority Report also emphasises the point that " it is impossible to avoid mistakes. The best worker will have moments of forgetfulness or inattention. It does not seem either fair to the workman or necessary in the interests of the employers' business that lapses of this kind should be penalised. They are a risk of the trade and should be met as such." For all these reasons the Committee of the Union strongly advocate the abolition of fines for bad and negligent work. If fines for bad and negligent work are retained, compensatory deductions either for spoilt goods or damage to materials should be prohibited and all deductions in this behalf should be in the nature of disciplinary or corrective fines. The legislation of Holland and Poland follow this rule.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

In the Ahmedabad textile mills fines for bad work are confined almost exclusively to the weaving department where they are inflicted on a large scale and in an injudicious manner. They bring in a large revenue for the mills and cause much discontent among the workmen. Considering how

vital to the mills is their reputation for the quality of their goods and how obvious and strong is the temptation for a workman to increase production at the expense of quality, it appears necessary that the employer should retain the power to fine for damaged cloth under suitable safeguards. Damage to cloth may arise from negligence and lack of skill on the part of the worker. It may be due also to many other factors, chief of them being the defects in yarn introduced in one or more of the preparatory processes, *e.g.*, spinning, winding, warping, sizing, drawing, etc. If fines be levied without regard to this distinction, without determining the extent of responsibility of a particular operative, without reference to a predefined standard of quality, and without keeping some proportion between the degree of offence and the amount of fine, they would certainly fail to discourage bad and negligent work. This is what is happening now in most of the local mills.

All fines for bad and negligent work should be purely disciplinary. There should be no attempt to make it a method of recovering damages for loss to the employers.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

The experience of the members of the Committee shows that in most cases fines are inflicted in a very haphazard and unsatisfactory manner. No provision is made or consideration given to the fact whether the material was damaged by the actual carelessness or negligence of the worker or whether the damage for which a worker is punished was due either to defective machinery or to some technical defects in the materials used due to bad work in preparatory processes. The majority of Indian workers are not fully conversant with the technical details in connection with the processes of manufacture and they often subject themselves to fines and punishments which they would not in most cases be entitled to on account of the fact that they are not able to state definitely whether the mistake complained of was due to their own negligence or carelessness or whether it was due to some defect in the machinery or material.

Central Labour Board

The idea of imposing fines upon workmen is condemned except in cases where it is proved by enquiry held in Joint Councils of the employers and employees that they were deliberately negligent, deliberately disobedient and deliberately wrong-minded towards the employers. Faults resulting from work done with inefficiency or ignorance do not deserve punishment by way of fine for there is no conscious guilt. To quote an instance to the point, millhands are fined on account of yarn being spoiled or pieces of cloth torn which are given back to the helpless workers to sell for themselves and the actual bazar prices are deducted from their wages.

Social Service League, Bombay

This question is a very complicated one and the Committee is afraid that the real magnitude of the evil cannot be adequately understood from the information available. It may be contended that the employer should not be compelled in all cases to pay wages to his employee for work which is valueless to him, nor can he in fairness be expected to pay him for inferior

work at the same rate as for good work. At the same time it must be remembered that it is humanly impossible always to do perfect work, that sometimes the damage caused is due to causes not within the control of the workman, that not infrequently the damage is due to faults in the machinery or materials, or to the fault of the jobber or supervisor, and that if the employer engages inexperienced hands for work for which they are not fully competent, the risk should be the employer's, not the worker's. In view of this it is the considered opinion of the Committee of the League that if the system of fines is not to be altogether abolished the employer should be allowed to deal with cases of careless or negligent work only in the same way and under the same conditions as he will be allowed to deal with breaches of discipline. Deductions for damage to articles during manufacture should be treated as corrective or disciplinary fines and not as compensatory ones. The deductions on this account should cease to be a method by which the employer may recoup the loss he has sustained through the worker's fault.

It must be remembered that the management hardly ever takes care to find out whether the cloth is spoiled on account of defective machinery, bad raw material or the negligence of the worker or of his superiors and that the weaver is held responsible for the damage though the cotton passes through several departments in the mills before it reaches the hands of the weaver and it may be that the original cause of the damage took place in any of the previous processes. In the absence of any positive proof that the weaver alone was responsible for the damage it would be unjust to penalise him. If a deduction on this account is made it should be open to the worker, if he feels aggrieved, to question the justice of the deduction. Such deductions should be allowed as disciplinary or corrective fines and not as compensatory.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabba

Employers, at times, with a view to economy, entrust work to incompetent hands which results in damage either to material or to plant. Sometimes a work which should be done by a regular mechanic is ordered to be done by an ordinary cooly. It is highly inequitable in case of damage to tax such an inefficient labourer either by inflicting a fine or by making deductions from his wages.

Compulsory Purchase of Damaged Material

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Bombay Millowners' Association

In the textile industry the usual rule is to hand over spoilt cloth to the weavers concerned and recover the cost from the workers' wages. It may be stated that the weavers prefer this system to being fined, as in practically all cases they are able to sell their cloth, and any new-fangled legislation making it impossible for the employer to hand over spoilt cloth to the weaver concerned will not certainly improve the position of the workers, as the fines that may be imposed instead might operate more heavily on them than the system of selling them spoilt cloth which they subsequently sell to others.

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

In the case of damaged goods or articles handed over to the worker, the deduction should not exceed the actual manufacturing cost.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

In several textile mills in the Presidency bad or negligent work is punished by handing over the spoilt material to the worker concerned and by deducting the value of the spoilt material, generally at wholesale prices, from that worker's wages. In weaving there are three causes which operate in spoiling the cloth (1) bad raw materials; (2) defective machinery; and (3) negligence and carelessness of the worker. The piece of cloth may also be spoiled on account of some mistake made in the Preparatory Departments. An officer's negligence is also many times responsible for the cloth being damaged. No enquiry is, however, made in the textile mills as to the causes of the cloth being spoiled and the cut-looker who receives the woven pieces in the Folding Department determines that the worker should be penalised even though the piece may have been spoilt for causes other than those due to his negligence. If a worker makes a complaint he is not heard. This is the experience of the Union.

The mills stand to lose nothing on account of material which may be spoiled during manufacture and handed over to the workers concerned. They get their selling price and credit it as " Sales " as if the sales were voluntary and the workers were in need of these spoilt articles. The summary of the enquiry takes it for granted that all the spoilt pieces are sold by the workers. This is not a fact. Such of the pieces as are manufactured for up-country centres or for export and are not used in Bombay by any class of people cannot be sold by the workers who have thus to bear the full loss themselves. In some cases they use material which they find it difficult to sell, although they do not generally require so much cloth. They succeed in selling some other pieces, but the difference between what they pay to the mills and what they receive by hawking must be considerable.

In several mills whole lengths of spoilt pieces are often converted into fents which are sold at prices the total amount of which is less than the wholesale selling price of the whole length. The differences are recovered from the workers in the form of fines. The fact that all spoilt material is not converted into fents clearly shows that in making over the spoilt material to the worker, the mill authorities do so in the realisation of the fact that they are not able to recover a satisfactory price for it. It is thus clear that a worker who is saddled with a piece of spoilt material must suffer a very great loss even if he is fortunate enough to be able to sell it.

Another very serious objection to the system of handing over spoilt cloth is that it leads to payment in kind. Under this system the workers are given a part of their wages in the form of spoilt pieces the price of which is deducted from their total wages. It has been recognised that payment in kind is one of the most objectionable methods of paying workers for their labour. Truck legislation in England, before endeavouring to tackle the question of prohibition of any other kinds of deductions, made

payment in kind illegal. The Committee of the Union are of opinion that this question should also receive due consideration in India, and they recommend that the system of handing over spoilt cloth should be abolished. It should also be noted in this connection that the Indian Tariff Board which recently investigated the condition of the textile industry in India has recommended the abolition of this practice.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

In view of the various considerations under the heading " Fines for bad and negligent work " it is necessary that the employer should retain the power to punish an employee for damage to cloth under suitable safeguards, but the law should leave to the workman the choice of paying the fine or taking away the damaged goods at cost price.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

This system should be prevented by law. It entails considerable hardship on the majority of the workers inasmuch as it compels them either to use cloth which they do not require in their own homes or to sell it at prices which result in a very great loss to them. This system might operate in a better manner if there were common tribunals of employers and workers to deal with spoilt pieces of material. Such competent tribunals might be able to properly locate the fault, but it would be impossible to advise the formation of such tribunals or committees at present because there are not a sufficient number of experienced workers available to form the workers' representatives on these committees. According to the system obtaining at present, the whole of this power rests in the hands of cut-lookers who generally examine whether a particular piece of coth is satisfactory or damaged. If the cloth is unsatisfactory or damaged no further examination as to the cause of the damage is made and the worker is immediately saddled with the material which he has produced. It will be seen how unjust the whole system is and my Committee again recommends to the Government of India that in any legislation that may be undertaken for the control of fines such legislation should definitely prohibit the handing over of damaged material to the workers concerned.

Social Service League, Bombay

The practice of making over damaged articles to workmen and deducting their prices from wages should at once be prohibited under the contemplated Indian Truck Act. This practice which is prevalent mostly in the Weaving Departments of a number of Textile Mills in this country imposes a great hardship on the workers and is one of which no adequate idea can be had from the incidence per deduction worked out in the Summary of the Results of the Labour Office enquiry. Instances are known of deductions amounting to Rs. 17-12-0, Rs. 19-5-0 and Rs. 23-4-6 from monthly earnings amounting to Rs. 55, Rs. 35 and Rs. 50, respectively. Of course, these deductions do not represent the net loss to the workers concerned. The difference between the amount deducted and the amount realised through sale varies according to the quality of the article in question. The weavers themselves do not require so much cloth for their own use. Again there are some varieties for which

there is no demand in Bombay. The weavers have to wander about the streets with pieces in their hands looking out for customers. Naturally they receive a price which is much less than that deducted from their wages. All punishments for bad and negligent work should be in the nature of fines in cash and subject to the same restrictions as other fines.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

In the case of spoilt material the manager should be allowed to deal with the workman concerned and the latter may decide to purchase the cloth or material rather than suffer dismissal.

Fines for Damage to or Loss of Property

LABOUR INTERESTS

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

With regard to the question of deductions for materials or tools lost or damaged by the employee the Committee recognise that sometimes damage or loss may be due to the actual carelessness or negligence of the workers, but in the majority of cases such damage occurs in the ordinary processes of manufacture through reasons for which a worker cannot be held entirely responsible. The Committee know of instances where heavy deductions have been made from the wages of workers for damage to machinery. If employers are able to prove culpable negligence they should take necessary action for recovery of the amount of the loss through the ordinary channels in the civil courts, but no deductions should be made from their wages on this account. Fines on this account should be, as usual, correctives for better discipline and efficiency and not compensatory.

Fining of Children

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

Fines should be totally abolished in the case of children below the age of sixteen.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

" With regard to the suggestion made by the Government of India in connection with fining of children my Committee is of opinion that fining should be totally abolished in the case of children under sixteen years of age. "

Social Service League, Bombay

Fines should be totally abolished in the case of children below the age of sixteen.

Conditions under which Fines may be Inflicted

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

Rules and regulations under which fines may be imposed should be posted in a prominent position. There does not appear to be any necessity to make the rules known to each individual worker.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

In considering the extent to which fines are imposed the point which deserves careful consideration is whether the fines are regulated by rules and whether these rules are agreed upon between the employers and the employees. Most mills in Bombay have a set number of rules about the conditions of employment, dismissals, etc., which are hung up near the mill-gates. When workers take up employment they are expected to know these rules and are supposed to have agreed to them. To that extent it can be said that there is between the employers and employees a contract of service although in framing that contract the employees have no hand. But it must be admitted that the workers are mostly illiterate and do not understand the terms of these contracts and their full implications. Nor are any serious efforts made by the mill authorities to explain the terms to the workers. For all practical purposes, therefore the existence of these contracts becomes as good as their absence. Most of the rules are one-sided and arbitrary inasmuch as they give the widest possible powers to the manager without hardly any restriction as to the action which he may choose to take upon them. In many cases the rules lay down more than one punishment for the same offence and the manager is given the fullest discretion to decide which punishment shall be inflicted on the offender. An offence of disobedience is punishable either with fine or forfeiture of wages or even dismissal.

Legislation should provide for definite contracts of service between the employers and the employees. The contract should not be considered valid unless it specifies the acts or omissions in respect of which the fines may be imposed and the amount of fines. It should contain definite rules fixing the rates of fines for breaches of discipline and these rules should be approved by the authority empowered to inspect the establishment concerned under the Act. The acts or omissions for which the fines are to be imposed under the contract must be such as will cause or are likely to cause damage or loss to the employer or interruption or hindrance to his business. The terms of the contract should be incorporated in a notice which should be in English as well as in the Vernacular of the majority of the workers and which should be hung up at a prominent place where the workers can see them and should be made available, free of charge, to the workman who requires it. Attempts should be made at the time of employment to explain to the workers the terms of the contract.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

There should be a precise definition of all offences for which a man may incur the liability to fine. The list of offences for which fines may be imposed should be small and exhaustive. No industrial establishment should exercise the power to fine till it has its own definite set of rules for which approval of the Government has been secured, and it should be provided that the employer shall make arrangements to explain these rules individually to every new entrant in the mills.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

The conditions under which fines may be inflicted should be clearly specified in notices which should be prominently posted not only in the mill compound but in each of the several departments of the mill and also outside the gates of the mill in order that workers who desire to take up employment in a particular mill may note the conditions under which they are liable to be fined before asking for employment. Copies of such notices and conditions should be made available to all new-comers and also to any of the existing employees who may ask for them. The conditions which the employer lays down for the infliction of fines should be sent to the Government Inspecting authority for approval.

The rules of the majority of the mills in Bombay City provide for questions concerning conditions of employment and the offences for which dismissals may be effected with or without forfeiture of wages. The workers subject themselves to these rules because they think that they have the sanction of Government. But these rules are unnecessarily harsh and leave unlimited power in the hands of the managements for dealing with individual cases. There should be a complete list of all the offences for which fines may be inflicted and the amounts of fines that will be inflicted for each offence.

Social Service League, Bombay

It is true that the textile mills in Bombay City have printed rules and regulations governing conditions of employment, dismissals with or without forfeiture of wages, fines, etc. But it is a question whether some of the rules and regulations are just and fair. It is not sufficient that printed rules and regulations should be put up. It is necessary that these rules and regulations should be just and fair. Not a few workmen are misled owing to the existing rules as they think that they are based on law. They are thus prevented from seeking any legal remedy open to them.

The notices of fines and other deductions that may be posted in an establishment or in its different departments should be in English as well as in the vernacular of the majority of the employees in that establishment, and all the rules and regulations contained in such notices should be in conformity with the provisions under the Truck Act. The rules should also be approved of by the Factory Inspector.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

The committee of the Sabha considers it advisable that legislation should be initiated without any delay in the matter of reducing the harsh and inequitable rules and regulations which prevail in the cotton mills in the Bombay Presidency. A majority of the mill workers are thoroughly misled by the printed rules which are placed in frames near the entrances and think that these rules are based on law and have the sanction of Government. These illiterate workers under this false notion fail to resort to the Courts of law and seek legal remedy against the inequitable rules by which they are made to suffer either in the shape of fines or forfeiture of wages. Such arbitrary and inequitable rules are not permitted anywhere in the world and the Committee thinks that early legislative measures should be taken to deal with them.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

A workman on becoming engaged at a mill or workshop should be made acquainted with the system of fining which prevails at that particular place; posting notices, etc., has proved useless where illiterate employees have been concerned.

Power to Fine

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality

The legislation should lay down that the rules of the concerns affected should provide as to which officers are authorised to impose fines.

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

The power of inflicting fines should rest with Heads of Departments and not with subordinates.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The Committee of the Union do not agree with the statement made in the summary of the Labour Office report to the effect that with the exception of a few mills in Bombay and in Ahmedabad where the power to fine rests with jobbers and special employees called "Detectors," the power to fine in the remaining factories and concerns rests with the heads of the departments. Technically it may be true that the power to fine rests with the manager or the heads of the departments, but in practice this provision is observed in its breach. It is almost invariably found that it is the jobbers, head-jobbers, foremen and the mukadams who fine the workers and their action in this matter is more often than not confirmed by the heads of the Departments. The practice in some of the Ahmedabad Mills of entrusting this power to detectors who obtain a certain percentage of the deductions made in respect of spoilt cloth must be acting very adversely upon the operatives.

The proposed legislation should prescribe that jobbers, head jobbers, mukadams, etc., should not have the power to fine the worker. The power to fine should be vested only in the hands of the heads of departments, but may, in the case of textile mills, be extended to cover officers of the rank of assistant spinning or weaving masters.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

With regard to the question of the power to fine, the law should lay down that this power should rest only with the heads of departments and that foremen, mukadams, head-jobbers, and jobbers should not be allowed to fine in any case. Where the power of fining is entrusted to special employees called "detectors" such as is shown to exist, according to the Summary, in the Ahmedabad mills, it must be evident that it would be a strong inducement to such detectors to inflict fines to as great an extent as possible in order to increase their own earnings, in view of the fact that remuneration

is given to them by paying them certain percentages of the total fines inflicted. The committee do not wish to labour on the outrageousness of such a system. It is absolutely necessary that the law should lay down that the power to fine should rest only with *bona fide* departmental heads and not with any special employees who may be taken up for the special purpose of fining.

Social Service League, Bombay

Although technically the power to fine rests with the heads of departments, the fines are inflicted in fact by jobbers, head-jobbers or assistants, and confirmed, mostly without making any enquiry and without giving the worker any opportunity for explanation, by the heads of departments or the managers. In many concerns it is difficult for the workmen to get justice even where the fines are not inflicted by the jobbers or head-jobbers. Generally it is the prosecutor who delivers the judgment.

In the case of some of the Ahmedabad mills where the power to fine rests with special employees who are called "Detectors" who receive a certain percentage of such deductions, one can easily see the evil of such an arrangement. Firstly, the power is likely to be abused by the detecting folders if the decisions given by them are treated as final, and secondly, if a certain percentage of the total amount of fines thus realised is handed over to them it is a further incentive for them to be unjust towards the weavers.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

It is necessary that the responsibility of levying fines should be left to some higher official and not in the hands of jobbers and other subordinates.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

The discretion of fining should be left to the manager, and he should also have power to delegate same to the head of a department.

Supply of Particulars to Workers who are Fined

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The Summary of the Report of the Labour Office enquiry states that "speaking generally, the employee fined is given full particulars relating to the fine at the time of the occurrence necessitating it." The experience of this Union does not agree with this conclusion. From the complaints of the operatives received by the Union, it is found that they were not, in most cases, particularly those in respect of spoiled cloth, informed of the amounts to be deducted from their wages; and that they came to know of these deductions only when they received their pay tickets. It should be made compulsory for the employer to inform the worker as soon as he is fined of the act or omission for which he is fined and the amount of the fine inflicted.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

In all cases where fines are inflicted, reasons for the infliction of the fine, the amount of fine and the name of the worker should be given to the worker concerned on a separate slip of paper signed by the departmental head who inflicts the fine. The possession of such documents by an employee will not only reduce the number of fines that might be inflicted, but will give the employee power to take any necessary action that he deems necessary for the refund of the fine where a competent authority decides that the fine has been unreasonably inflicted.

Social Service League, Bombay

It is not a fact that the employee fined is always given full particulars relating to the fine at the time of the occurrence necessitating it. In a number of mills in Bombay and also in some other establishments, including the workshops of a Railway Company, the workman who is fined is not informed of the amount of fine at the time of the occurrence necessitating it nor is the amount deducted from the wages on that account in some mills shown separately on the pay-ticket. When particulars are not given the employee has to make his own calculations and find out the amount that he is fined for himself.

All fines, whether compensatory or disciplinary, should be countersigned by the factory-owner or his responsible representative who should notify the worker in writing, stating the reason for the said fine in a prescribed form.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

Whenever any fine is levied on a workman it should be notified in writing and reasons given for inflicting the same. Such notification should be in English and vernacular. Such a procedure would enable any aggrieved worker to have recourse to law for the recovery of the amount of fine which has been unjustly imposed on him, whether as a matter of discipline or for damage caused to machinery or materials. In this connection it is also desirable that there should be some tribunal to examine carefully cases where the damage is done through ignorance, incompetency or deliberation.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

In all cases the workman should be notified as to the extent of the fine when the same is imposed.

Maintenance of Registers of Fines

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Karachi Chamber of Commerce

Under the rules of the Factories Act it should be made compulsory for all factories to keep a record of fines with the reasons for their infliction, and an account of the disposal of the money so collected—the record to be made available for inspection by the Factory Inspector.

Chairman, Karachi Port Trust

It would be advisable that the number and amount of fines imposed should be reported at regular intervals to the Factory Inspector or other Government Department concerned and that each factory should notify the Department as to who is empowered to impose and confirm fines in the factory.

Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality

The legislation should provide for a register embodying briefly the reasons for inflicting punishment together with the defaulter's explanation, etc.

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

There does not appear to be any necessity for making a record of fines.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

The employer should be compelled to maintain a fine register containing full information about the acts or omissions for which a worker was fined, and the amount of fines, and he should be asked to send to the Government authorities prescribed under the Act a periodical return of the number of persons fined, the nature of their offences and the amounts of fines.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

Every establishment covered by the Act should be compelled to maintain a register for fines, suspensions and dismissals, and these registers should be open to the periodical inspection of the controlling inspectors.

Social Service League, Bombay

Every employer should be compelled to keep a register of deductions specifying the amount and the nature of the act or omission in respect of which the fine was imposed, and this register should be at all times open to inspection by the Inspecting authority.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

Every employer should be compelled by law to keep a register in which fines, deductions or forfeitures of wages, specifying the nature of the default may be entered and this register should be kept open for inspection by Government officials.

Extent to which Fines may be Inflicted

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality

The legislation should lay down that all the concerns affected should provide rules as to the limit up to which fines may be imposed.

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

The maximum limit of fines in any one month should be laid down in the form of a percentage of the wages of the worker for breaches of discipline, insubordination, etc.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

In the case of the Bombay textile mills, the rules do not prescribe any limit on the imposition of fines. In this matter the Manager is given the fullest discretion. Should the Government of India decide to accept as the basis of the contemplated legislation that the system of fines should not be abolished, it is strongly recommended that the extent to which fines may be inflicted should be restricted. The maximum fine or accumulation of fines in any one week, fortnight or month should not exceed 4 per cent., 3 per cent. and 2 per cent. respectively of the wages of the workman. The deductions for a fine should be made only in the period in which it is imposed and no claims for arrears of fines should be allowed.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

A maximum percentage as well as amount should be fixed for a wage period as well as for each offence. The amount in case of petty offences should be nothing more than nominal. The maximum amount should not exceed 10 per cent. of a day's wages and 2 per cent. of the wages for a wage period.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

A check on fining could be obtained by prescribing a maximum limit to which fines can be inflicted. The committee of the Union are, however, afraid that if a maximum was laid down, the laying down of such a maximum might increase the amount of fines that might be inflicted on workers who have not hitherto been fined. There is also the danger that employers might fine up to the limit when they know that a limit is definitely provided for. The committee cannot agree to the suggestion made in the letter of the Government of India that a limit of 5 per cent. to the amount of fines that might be inflicted may be prescribed. If such a limit were laid down it would mean that a worker who is earning Rs. 20 a month might be fined up to a limit of one rupee. As Government are aware the margin of subsistence for a low-paid employee is very little. An employee earning Rs. 100 a month might be able to stand a fine of Rs. 5 but a worker earning Rs. 20 would be considerably distressed if he had to submit to a deduction of one rupee from his low wages. The committee are therefore emphatically of opinion that a maximum limit of 2 per cent. will satisfactorily meet the case, and that the interests of the employers to safeguard their rights of enforcing discipline and demanding efficiency would be satisfactorily met with.

Central Labour Board

When the law is permitted to interfere with the regulation of imposition of fines a maximum percentage must be settled.

Social Service League, Bombay

The maximum amount of a single fine that may be inflicted in the course of one day on an employee should not exceed one-tenth of his daily wages, and the total amount of fines in the course of a calendar month should not exceed 5 per cent. of his monthly wages, including those on account of spoiled cloth.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

So far as fines are concerned it is essential that a certain limit be placed so that the total amount of fines should not exceed 4 per cent. of the monthly wages earned by the textile workers who live from hand to mouth.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

It is agreed that the fines imposed should not exceed 5 per cent. of a worker's wages but in cases where cloth or any other material is severely damaged and involves heavy loss it is recommended that the 5 per cent. limit should be suspended.

Disposal of Fines

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

Chairman, Bombay Port Trust

All amounts collected by the infliction of fines should be credited to a special " Fines Fund " and be utilised for the benefit and welfare of the classes of workers from whom the fines are collected.

Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality

The legislation should lay down that the rules of the concerns affected should provide for the establishment of the Fines Fund to which all fines should be credited and the regulations for utilising the funds.

Chief Officer, Bombay Improvement Trust

All amounts collected through inflictions of fines except in the case of damaged goods and tools should be credited to a special fund which should be utilised for the general benefit of the employees. The amounts collected in respect of spoilt or damaged materials should be retained by the owner.

LABOUR INTERESTS

Bombay Textile Labour Union

All fines and deductions should be credited to the Fines Fund Account and not to such accounts as revenue, sales, unclaimed wages and the like.

The fund should be exclusively utilised for the benefit and welfare of the workers as a whole, and not for the welfare of any special class of workers. The funds should be managed by a Committee on which the workers' representatives selected through the Unions where they exist should have a place and the funds account should be open to Government inspection.

The employer should not be allowed to give any amount of the Fines Fund for charities.

Ahmedabad Textile Labour Union

Income from fines should be devoted to Labour Welfare Work exclusively, or may be handed over to a society interested in the uplift of the working classes.

Girni Kamgar Mahamandal

All fines should be credited to Special Fines Funds. Employers should periodically remit the amounts at the credit of these Fines Funds to a Central Committee to be appointed by Government for the administration of such funds. These funds should be utilised for the general welfare of labourers, by contributions to hospitals, provision of dispensaries, and maintenance of schools and othe educational and technical institutes for the promotion of better training of workers.

Social Service League, Bombay

So far as the information of the committee goes, the Fines Funds of railways are utilised largely for the benefit of a particular section of railway employees and the majority of the employees from whom the fines have been levied do not benefit through the Special Fines Funds. In justice the amounts realised from fines should be utilised mainly for the welfare of that class of workmen who have paid them.

The fine that may legally be inflicted by an employer or his responsible representative must not directly or indirectly benefit either the firm or the person imposing the fine, and all the amounts of fines must be utilised for the benefit of the workers. If such a benefit fund is to be maintained for the employees of the particular establishment, it must be managed by a committee on which the different classes of the employees are fairly represented, the employees' representatives being preferably trade union members. The accounts of such fines should be open to Government inspection. An alternative suggestion would be that the amount of fines should be handed over to welfare institutions approved by Government.

Central Labour Board

Whatever fines are settled by the Joint Council of the Employers' and Workers' Committees should be reserved in a separate account and all the proceeds so accumulated should go towards the improvement of the lot of the workmen, and not as is being done at present by the Railway Companies where the men's deductions provide the officers with sundry amenities such as bars, gymkhanas, tennis courts, etc.

Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha

The proceeds of fines and forfeited wages should be wholly appropriated for the welfare of the workers and in no way be used for the benefit of the employers.

OTHER INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS

Bombay European Textile Association

The amount recovered in fines, deductions, etc., should be devoted to a fund and utilised for the benefit of the workers generally—in the form of free medicine and free medical attendance for themselves and their families.

[To be continued]

Reviews of Books and Reports

Annual Factory Report of the Presidency of Bombay, 1926

The Annual Factory Report of the Presidency of Bombay has just been published. It shows that the number of factories that actually worked during the year was 1398 as compared with 1358 in the previous year. Of these, 675 were perennial and 723 seasonal.

The number of operatives employed in all industries was 382,255 as against 370,460 in the previous year. There has been a steady increase in the number of women employed in recent years while at the same time the ratio of women employed to the total number of persons employed has also slightly increased. Thus the percentages of women to total persons employed for the years 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926 are 19·5, 20·4, 20·9 and 21·2. The employment of children on the other hand has steadily decreased. Prior to the introduction of the Amended Factories Act in 1922, 4·5 per cent. of the factory population were children. In 1926, less than 2 per cent. were children.

Wages, it is pointed out, remained fairly steady and the year was not marked by any wide-spread strike.

As regards the housing of factory hands, no advance was made in the textile industry except in the case of a new mofussil mill which provided twenty three-roomed tenements for the lower subordinate staff and 63 one-roomed tenements for the operatives. The Government of India have provided living accommodation for all the monthly paid operatives of their printing press in Nasik and the provision of further housing for the daily paid staff, half of whom are already housed, is under consideration. A match factory at Ambernath has provided housing for about 700 employees during the last few years.

Four mills in Bombay have opened creches in addition to the three mills that formerly maintained them. The average creche attendance increased from 64 to 145 and the opium drugging of 72 children has been directly stopped in the creches.

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International Federation of Trade Unions, Report on Activities during 1924, 1925 and 1926, Amsterdam, 1927

The Report shows that the period covered was not marked by any great advance in the social and economic position of the working class. The membership on 31st December 1925, declined by about 3 million as compared with 31st December 1923. This was mainly due to the fall in membership in Germany.

During the period under review four new countries joined the Federation. Four distinct relief actions were organised, one in 1925, for the locked-out Danish workers, another in the same year for the textile workers in Bombay, the third in 1926 for the National strike and the fourth for the miners' strike in Great Britain.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. VI, NO. 1, MAY 1927. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *The Making of a Trade Union, by Herbert Tracey.* pp 1-5.
(2) *Towards Industrial Conscription, by the Rt. Hon. Sidney Webb, M.P.* pp. 6-8.
(3) *Some Sidelights on the Trade Disputes Bill, by Sir Henry Slesser, K.C., M.P.* pp. 9 and 10.
(4) *Civil Service Unions and the Bill, by J. W. Bowen (General Secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers).* pp. 11-13.
(5) *Why America has no Labour Party, by J. R. Smallwood.* pp. 14 and 15.
(6) *In the "Eight-Fifteen", by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 16 and 17.
(7) *Ireland in 1927, by R. M. Fox.* pp. 18 and 19.
(8) *The American Farmer at Home, by J. T. Walton Newbold.* pp. 20 and 21.
(9) *Preparations for Disarmament, by Roth Williams.* pp. 22 and 23.
(10) *German Trade Unionism Today, by Hermann Schlimme (Secretary of the General Federation of German Trade Unions) Part. I.* pp. 28-30.
(11) *The Financial Genius of Mr. Churchill*—The present budget; new taxes; jugglery; plunder; income tax; sinking fund; war costs. pp. 31-34.
(12) *The Wonderful Webbs, by Herbert Morrison, J.P., L.C.C.,* pp. 35-37.
(13) *Work and Wages in America : Report of the Industrial Delegation.* pp. 40-43.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. VI, NO. 2, JUNE 1927. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles : (1) *Trade Unionism Produces a Statesman, by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 51-53.
(2) *The Anti-Trade Union Bill in Committee, by Arthur Henderson, B A., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law.* pp. 54-57.
(3) *The Four Deadly Stings, by R. B. Suthers.* pp. 58-60.
(4) *Government by Judges, by John P. Frey (Representative of the American Federation of Labour).* pp. 61 and 62.
(5) *Anti-Labour's Dirty Money.* pp. 63-65.
(6) *In the "Eight-Fifteen", by T. S. Dickson.* pp. 66 and 67.
(7) *Compulsory Trade Unionism, by G. E. Modigliani (Deputy of the Italian Parliament).* pp. 68-71.
(8) *German Trade Unionism Today, by Hermann Schlimme (Secretary of the General Federation of German Trade Unions) Part II.* pp. 76-78.
(9) *Labour Fights the Anti-Union Bill.* pp. 80-83.
(10) *Tories Afraid to Face Inquiry on Russia.* pp. 84-86.
(11) *The Bad Tempered People.* pp. 87 and 88.
(12) *The World of Industry.* pp. 89-91.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. VI, NO. 3, JULY 1927. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles. (1) *Trade Unionism in the Civil Service, by Herbert Tracey.* pp. 99-101.
(2) *When "Left" is "Right" and so Righted is Wrong, by Herbert Morrison, J. P., L.C.C.* pp. 102 and 103.
(3) *Co-operation and Labour in Politics, by a Special Correspondent.* pp. 104-106.
(4) *The Problem of South African Native Policy, by Lord Oliver.* pp. 107-111.
(5) *The Anti-Trade Union Bill in Committee, by Arthur Henderson, B.A., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law.* pp. 112 and 113.
(6) *The Western Farmers in Agitation and Action, by J. T. Walton Newbold.* pp. 114-116.
(7) *In the "Eight-Fifteen", by T.S. Dickson.* pp. 117-119.
(8) *The Problem of Machinery, by George W. Thomson (Editor of the "Draughtsman" the organ of the Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen).* pp. 124-127.
(9) *Labour and the Irish Elections, by Tom Johnson, T. D.* pp. 128 and 129.
(10) *The Anti-Trade Union Bill Contested to the End.* pp. 132 and 133.
(11) *Liberal Disunity on the Anti-Trade Union Bill.* pp. 134 and 135.
(12) *History of Socialist Thought.* pp. 136 and 137.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 6, JUNE 1927. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles : (1) *Trade Organisation in Italy under the Act and Regulations on Collective Relations in connection with Employment, by H. E. Giuseppe Bottai (Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Corporations, Rome).*—Trade organisation of employers, workers, and artists and persons engaged

in a profession—trade organisation of employers, trade organisation of workers, artists, and persons engaged in a profession, general characteristics of the rules of recognised trade associations; trade associations and associated bodies; rules for the levying, collection and distribution of contributions; organisation of the staff of public institutions; mixed activities in relation to trade organisation; conclusion. pp. 815-827.

(2) *National Corporative Organisation in Spanish Industry, by Count De Altea (Former Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Labour, Commerce and Industry).*—pp. 828-841.

(3) *The Present Tendencies of Compulsory Sickness Insurance.*—Introduction; present tendencies—scope, benefits, the sharing of the cost, insurance institutions; conclusion. pp. 842-859.

(4) *The Place of Prevention in Social Insurance, by Andreas Grieser (Director in the Federal Ministry of Labour, Berlin).*—pp. 860-867.

(5) *The Administration of Labour Law in Germany II: by Hugo Siefart (Formerly Director in the Federal Ministry of Labour).*—The labour courts; the adjustment of disputes; conclusion. pp. 868-887.

(6) *Conditions of Labour in the Surabaya (Java) Metal Industry.*—Previous strike movements; the 1925 strikes; conditions of labour—contractual relations between employers and employed, wages, hours of work, conditions of life, conditions of workshops, the workers' demands; conclusions and desiderata. pp. 888-908.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XVI, NO. 1, JULY 1927 (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles: (1) *The Evolution of a Wage-Adjustment System: I, by J. R. Bellerby.*—I. The nature of the problem—principles of wage-adjustment; II. The nature of wage disputes—the limits of fluctuation of the wages-proportion, some theoretical considerations; III. The classification of wage disputes pp. 1-25.

(2) *State Enterprises in Australia, by J. B. Brigden (Professor of Economics, University of Tasmania)*—Natural tendencies; classification; the distribution of State enterprises; Queensland State trading; financial results: New South Wales as example; economic results; labour conditions; administration; conclusion. pp. 26-49.

(3) *Employers' Organisations in France.*—Historical survey; present organisation—pools, combinations and trade associations, employers' trade associations, characteristics of the various federations, internal organisation of a federation, a specimen organisation · the iron works committee inter-trade organisation; tendencies of the movement—before the war, during the war, after the war—statement of principle, hours of work, holidays with pay, collective bargaining, conciliation and arbitration, wages, social insurance, apprenticeship, employment of disabled men, foreign labour, national economic council, international labour organisation. pp. 50-77.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIV, NO. 1, JANUARY 1927 (U. S. Department of Labor, Woshington.)

Special Articles. (1) *Longshoremen Ask Congressional Action, by Louise F. Shields.*—The situation of the injured worker; relative position under liability and compensation systems; transformation of the longshore worker; the legislative situation. pp. 1-6.

(2) *Medical and Hospital Service for Industrial Employees.*—Plant hospitals and medical service; special medical services; first-aid equipment and training; scope of the work of the medical departments; dental and other special treatment; visiting-nurse service; treatment of tuberculosis; entrance and periodic physical examinations; follow up work as a result of physical examinations; conclusion. pp. 7-19.

(3) *Development of Consumers' Co-operative Enterprises, 1920 to 1925.*—Business carried on; geographical distribution; years of operation; membership; volume of business; six-year trend of co-operative business; net trading profit or loss; patronage rebates; funds of consumers' societies—share capital and reserve, social benefits of co-operative societies. pp. 20-34.

(4) *Productivity of Labor in Eleven Industries.*—Measurement of productivity; indexes of production; indexes of man-hours; index of productivity;—iron and steel industry, petroleum refining, slaughtering and meat packing; leather and boot and shoe industries, paper and pulp industry, flour milling industry, automobile and rubber-tire industries, sugar refining industry, cement industry; the long-time trend of productivity; conclusion. pp. 35-49.

(5) *Annual Report of the Secretary of Labor for 1926.*—Conciliation service; United States employment service; United States housing corporation; Bureau of Labor Statistics; Bureau of Immigration; Children's Bureau; Naturalization Bureau; Women's Bureau; partnership industry. pp. 50-55.

(6) *The Acid Test of Progress in Accident Prevention, by Ethelbert Stewart (United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics).* pp. 61-64.

(7) *Successive and Vested Rights in Compensation Benefits.*—Alabama; Alaska; Arizona; California; Colorado; Connecticut; Delaware; Georgia; Hawaii; Idaho; Illinois; Indiana; Iowa; Kansas; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maine; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; Minnesota

Missouri; Montana,; Nebraska; Nevada; New Hampshire; New Jersey; New Mexico; New York; North Dakota; Ohio; Oklahoma; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Porto Rico; Rhode Island; South Dakota; Tennessee; Texas; Utah; Vermont; Virginia; Washington; West Virginia; Wisconsin; Wyoming; United States. pp. 75-103.

(8) *First Meeting of International Association for Social Progress.*—Protective measures for salaried employees; social insurance rights of migrant workers; social insurance costs; public works and unemployment; association programme for 1926-27; pp. 114-115.

(9) *Salaries of Office Employees in Massachusetts.*—pp. 141-143.

(10) *Earnings and Hours in the English Iron and Steel and Other Metal Industries, 1924.*—Average weekly earnings; normal weekly hours of labor; hours worked and average hourly earnings; extent of short time. pp. 145-148.

(11) *Wages and Hours in Great Britain at the Beginning of 1926.*—Agricultural wages. pp. 148-156.

(12) *Employment Exchanges, Unemployment Insurance and Training for Unemployed in England.*—Work of the employment exchanges; unemployment insurance; training of the unemployed. pp. 158-160.

(13) *Cost of Living in Pekin China.*—Price fluctuations; cost of living; wages; conclusions. pp. 216-218.

Routine Matter—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIV, NO. 2, FEBRUARY 1927 (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Changes in Occupational Character of Immigration since the War.*—Statistical sources; quota acts; reclassification of certain occupations; occupation trends in immigration after passage of quota acts; immigration and emigration compared. pp. 1-6.

(2) *Chambers of Labor in Austria, by Dr. Fritz Rager (Secretary of the Vienna Chamber of Labor).*—Plan of organization; meetings; government supervision; reasons for creating chambers of labor; delimitation of jurisdiction; financial resources and disbursements; publications; co-operation of experts; trade-union control. pp. 7-13.

(3) *Wages and Conditions in the Pottery Industry.*—Wages in the industry. pp. 16 and 17.

(4) *Collection of Unpaid Wages by California Bureau of Labor Statistics.*—Savings to workers; civil actions in behalf of wage claimants; civil suit to collect penalty. pp. 18-21.

(5) *Extension of Family Allowance System in France.*—Increase in family allowance rates; sick allowances. pp. 23 and 24.

(6) *Lost Time and Labor Turnover among Women Workers in Cotton Mills in 1922*—Lost time; labor turnover; pp. 39-41.

(7) *Hours, Wages, and Working Conditions of Women in Mississipi Industries.*—pp. 42 and 43.

(8) *Disease Due to Occupation Held Noncompensable in Texas.*—pp. 44-46.

(9) *Wages and Hours of Labor in the Cotton Goods Industry, 1924* and *1926.*—pp. 52-57.

(10) *Wages and Hours of Labor in the Woollen and Worsted Goods Industry, 1924* and *1926.*—pp. 57-61.

(11) *Wage Rates and Hours Established by Recent Agreements.*—Dock builders—New York City; hay and grain teamsters—Chicago; machinists—Portland, Oreg; malt workers—Minnesota; milk wagon drivers—San Francisco; pocket-book workers—New York City. pp. 65 and 66.

(12) *Earnings and Employment in the Motion-Picture Industry of California.*—Fluctuations in employment; weekly wage rates; "*extras*"—pp. 66-69.

(13) *Wages paid in Chilean Coal Mines, 1911 to 1924.*—pp. 74 and 75.

(14) *Abandonment of Short-Time Policy by English Cotton Spinners.*—pp. 75 and 76.

(15) *Trend of Wholesale Prices in the United States, 1801 to 1926.*—pp. 166 and 167.

(16) *Changes in the Cost of Living in the United States.*—pp. 168-181.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIV, NO. 3, MARCH 1927. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Productivity of Railroad Labor, by Walter H. Dunlap, C.E.*—Labor productivity of all employees and of train and engine crews, 1915-26; productivity of all employees, 1890 to 1926; basic data. pp. 1-8.

(2) *Factory Labor Turnover.—Two New Monthly Indexes, by W. A. Berridge (Brown University and Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.).* pp. 9-13.

(3) *Lunch Rooms in Industrial Establishments.*—Establishments having general restaurant service; kinds of service; character of management; prices charged for meals, menus, methods of payments, establishments having free meals: financial results of operating restaurants. pp. 13-22.

(4) *Statistical Analysis of the Personnel of a Silk Mill.*—Age distribution; occupations; length of service; labor stability; earnings; hours of labor; labor cost of production. pp. 25-28.

(5) *Record of Industrial Accidents in the United States to 1925.*—pp. 31 and 32.

(6) *Problem of Old-Age Pensions in Industry*—Necessity for pension systems—cost of private pension systems; tendency to rising costs of pension plans; actual increases in costs; methods of financing pension plans; solvency of existing pension plans; general evaluation of private pension plans.—pp. 48-54.

(7) *Japanese Health Insurance Law Becomes Effective*—scope; financial features; benefits—sickness and injury benefits, maternity benefits, funeral benefits; administration. pp. 64-68.

(8) *Wages and Hours of Labour in the Boot and Shoe Industry, 1926.*—pp. 77-86.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXIV, NO. 4, APRIL 1927. (U. S. Department of Labor, Washington.)

Special Articles: (1) *Displacement of Labor by Machinery in the Glass Industry.*—Comparisons of labor output and cost in hand and machine production; development of machinery in the industry—manufacture of bottles and jars, manufacture of pressed ware, manufacture of blown ware, manufacture of window glass, manufacture of plate glass; effects of automatic machinery on the industry as a whole—establishments and wage-earners, size of establishments; output and productivity; value of output; wage workers' earnings; child labour in the industry. pp. 1-12.

(2) *Labor Conditions during the 1926 Apple Harvest in Wenatchee Valley, by Louise F. Shields.*—Efforts to obtain workers; stampede of labor to the valley; need of organised employment system; need of organization in marketing. pp. 13-17.

(3) *Passage of Longshoremen's Compensation Act.*—Lack of appropriation for enforcement; coverage of the act; administrative provisions. pp. 18-20.

(4) *Report of German Trade-Unions on American Industrial Conditions.*—Reason for the study; output per worker in United States and Germany—industries in which output of American worker exceeds that of German worker, industries in which output of German worker equals that of American worker, speed of machines, technical organization the vital factor; rate of production in the two countries; comparison of money wages in United States and Germany; comparison of cost of living and real wages. pp. 21-28.

(5) *Sick Leave with Pay for Factory Workers.*—pp. 33 and 34.

(6) *Study of Workers Insured against Unemployment in Great Britain.*—Proportion drawing benefits; relation between contributions and benefits; age in relation to unemployment. pp. 45-47.

(7) *Proposed Changes in English Unemployment Insurance.*—Historical review; reported abuse of unemployment insurance plan; principles of a satisfactory plan; main features of proposed plan; financial basis of proposed scheme. pp. 47-51.

(8) *Estimated Income of the People of the United States.*—Total current income; per capita income; income per person gainfully employed. pp. 77-79.

(9) *Wage Rates of Farm Labor, 1926.*—pp. 82-84.

(10) *Changes in English Wage Rates in 1926.*—Methods by which wage changes were arranged; changes in hours of labour. pp. 108-110.

(11) *Methods of Wage Fixing in Great Britain.*—Sliding scale method; wages determined by trade boards; lack of uniformity in wages and wage-fixing methods. pp. 110-113.

(12) *Plan for National Collection of Employment Statistics.*—Purpose of committee on Governmental labor statistics; plans recommended by the Committee—co-ordination of Bureaus, facts to be secured, co-ordination with other statistics, special studies; explanation of the plan. pp. 137-140.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 6, JUNE 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Alberta Labour Disputes Act.*—Report on proceedings during the first year; report of board. pp. 615 and 616.

(2) *Labour Legislation in Nova Scotia and Ontario.*—Nova Scotia—hours of fire departments, coal mines regulation act, metalliferous mines and quarries regulation act, workmen's compensation, other legislation; Ontario. pp. 626-628.

(3) "*Canadian Labour Laws and the Treaty.*"—pp. 629-631.

(4) *Workmen's Compensation in Manitoba and Ontario in 1926.*—Manitoba; Ontario. pp. 634-638.

(5) *Industrial Accident Prevention Associations of Ontario.*—Proceedings at safety convention of 1927.—pp. 639 and 640.

(6) *Accident Prevention in a Toronto Factory.* pp. 640-642.

(7) *Economic Policy of Organized Labour laid before International Economic Conference.*—Promotion of freer commerce; raising of labour standards; international industrial organization; agricultural organization; proposed international economic office. pp. 648 and 649.

(8) *The Trade Union Movement in India.*—pp. 649 and 650.

(9) *League of Nations International Labour Organization: Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference.*—Social insurance; governing body of the International Labour Office to meet in Berlin; Great Britain and the hours convention; administration of labour law in Germany; credit co-operation; Japan and seamen's exchanges; "International directory of co-operative organizations"; migration movements 1920-24; occupation and health. pp. 653-655.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

At its Eleventh Plenary Congress, held in Berlin from 26th to 31st May 1927, the International Federation of League of Nations Societies considered the question of propaganda to be undertaken with a view to making the work of the International Labour Office better known.

Among the resolutions adopted was one requesting " national societies to use their influence with their national educational authorities to include instruction in the principles and work of the International Labour Organisation in the regular curricula of educational establishments under their control." This resolution draws attention to the recommendations submitted by the Committee of Experts of the League of Nations, urging the competent authorities in each country to ensure that teachers should be provided with a copy of the Covenant and the " International Charter of Labour," with short explanations and a concise bibliography, and to request those in charge of industrial educational establishments : *e.g.*, trade schools, continuation classes, technical schools, agricultural institutes, etc., to introduce into their course of instruction some account of the League of Nations and the International Labour Organisation in the form most suitable for their pupils. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 74 of 1927.*)

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A World Population Conference is to be held in Geneva on 31st August and 1-3rd September 1927. It is being organised by an International Council specially created for the purpose, and will discuss the most important aspects of the population problem. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 11, 1927.*)

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UNITED KINGDOM

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in June resulted in a reduction of £80,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 539,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £2600 in those of 40,000 workpeople.

Coalminers again formed the principal group of workpeople affected by reductions. In Yorkshire their wages were reduced by about 4 per cent. on the previous rates, in Nottinghamshire by nearly 6 per cent., and in South Wales and Monmouthshire by 10 per cent. Reductions also occurred in the South Staffordshire and Forest of Dean coalfields. In other industries there was a reduction of about $1\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. on the previous wages of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, and men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales had their wages reduced by $\frac{1}{2}d.$ or $\frac{3}{4}d.$ per hour. Other bodies of workpeople affected by reductions included steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in England and Wales, workpeople employed in the asbestos industry, furniture trade operatives in Scotland, and packing-case makers in London.

The workpeople affected by increases in rates of wages were principally coal miners in the Cannock Chase and Bristol districts, and workpeople employed at waterworks in London.

During the six completed months of 1927 the changes reported to the Department in the industries for which statistics are compiled have resulted in net increases amounting to £22,200 in the weekly full-time wages of 325,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of £244,900 in those of 1,286,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1926 there were net increases of £16,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 135,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £69,500 in those of 658,000 workpeople. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, July, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

At 1st July the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 66 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 63 per cent. a month ago, and 70 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 59, 54 and 61 respectively.

The rise in the index number at 1st July as compared with a month earlier, was mainly due to higher prices for potatoes and eggs. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, July, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in June was 16. In addition, 28 disputes which began before June were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in June (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 22,000; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during June was about 79,000 working days. The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first six months of 1927 was about 686,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 61,000. (*From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, July, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

The Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Bill, introduced by the British Government, has now passed through its Committee stage, Report stage and Third Reading in the House of Commons and has been sent to the House of Lords. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 11, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

UNITED STATES

According to official reports received by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Department of Commerce, approximately 63 lives are lost every ten days

in the coal mines, and 14 in the metal mines of the country. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, July 21, 1927.*)

* * * * * *

OTHER COUNTRIES

An amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act has come into operation in New Zealand. The rate of compensation for invalidity in that country has now been raised to two-thirds of the man's wages, and the maximum period during which such compensation may be drawn increased to 208 weeks. The rate of compensation may be as high as £4 a week, and the aggregate payments £1000. (*From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service", Geneva, No. 73 of 1927.*)

* * * * *

The *Canadian Textile Journal* is publishing a series of articles on "Industrial Management," written by Mr. James A. Coote, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at McGill University, Montreal. Professor Coote finds that the employment departments and "welfare" undertakings of large industrial concerns owe their existence to the discovery about fifteen years ago of the magnitude and importance of "labour turnover." "In the year 1912," he says, "Mr. Magnus Alexander of the General Electric Company made an investigation of the extent and cost of labour turnover. He found that twelve factories, which at the beginning of the year had 37,274 employees, increased their working force during the year by 6697 employees, but during that period 42,571 people were hired, so that 35,874 must have been dropped from the payroll during that time. The smallest factory employed 300 people and the largest 10,000. It was found that of the employees engaged during this year twenty-seven per cent. of them had worked in them before."

"The publication of these figures," Professor Coote continues, "caused a great stir in the industrial world and the leaders immediately took steps to cope with the problem of reducing the turnover. The first step was the organization of the employment department and greater care in the selection and placement of employees. But while this worked some improvement it did not go far enough. Employers then turned their attention to 'Welfare Work,' which, generally, was a well-meant endeavour to minister to the needs or desires of the workers so that they would remain on the job." (*From "Labour Gazette," Canada, June 1927.*)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JULY 1927

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1927	1927		
1. The Toyo Podar Cotton Mill, Delisle Road, Bombay.	352	..	5 July	9 July	Demand for reinstatement of dismissed weavers.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills, Delisle Road, Bombay.	300	..	7 July	12 July	Demand for higher wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3 The Swadeshi Mill, Kurla, Bombay.	1 311	2,548	14 July	23 July	Protest against fine for absence without leave.	The strike ended in a compromise.
4. The Whittle and Maganlal Spinning and Weaving Mills, Viramgaum.	260	..	21 July	23 July	Weavers fined in addition to being saddled with damaged cloth.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
5. The Laxmi Narayan Mill, Chalisgaon, (East Khandesh).	500	..	24 July	26 July	Reduction in Compensatory allowances.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS (OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number		Month of June			Three months ended June		
		1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10		6,5.9	6,443	6,337	19,360	19,410	18,419
Nos. 11 to 20		19,970	17,501	18,147	59,736	53,815	55,397
Nos. 21 to 30		15,4.5	15,804	15,580	43,949	46,700	47,644
Nos. 31 to 40		1,257	1,638	2,293	3,576	5,030	6,210
Above 40		486	764	921	1,297	2,308	2,879
Waste, etc.		32	123	114	52	377	323
	Total ..	43,719	42,273	43,392	127,970	127,640	130,872

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10		5,926	5,763	5,571	17,462	17,312	16,204
Nos. 11 to 20		12,951	11,671	12,169	39,819	36,016	37,392
Nos. 21 to 30		9,858	9,966	9,707	28,916	29,218	29,696
Nos. 31 to 40		702	710	1,056	1,966	2,176	2,719
Above 40		301	298	416	766	845	1,372
Waste, etc.		22	110	114	26	345	323
	Total ..	29,760	28,518	29,033	88,955	85,912	87,706

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10		200	238	192	587	598	571
Nos. 11 to 20		4,048	3,189	3,227	11,075	9,938	9,823
Nos. 21 to 30		4,321	4,252	4,645	11,651	12,890	14,293
Nos. 31 to 40		368	753	924	1,061	2,213	2,536
Above 40		128	367	357	372	1,116	1,073
Waste, etc.		..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	9,065	8,799	9,345	24,746	26,755	28,301

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of June			Three months ended June		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	972	912	2,039	2,499	2,513	4,740
Chudders „ ..	1,175	1,964	1,854	3,477	4,365	4,658
Dhotis „ ..	6,030	8,097	8,729	20,120	22,914	24,498
Drills and jeans „ ..	862	822	1,157	3,205	3,136	3,803
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	34	24	50	230	56	111
Printers „ ..	200	165	130	829	585	491
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	7,665	11,370	10,124	25,030	32,112	31,114
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	980	1,365	1,268	3,153	3,340	4,305
Tent cloth „ ..	105	20	16	336	84	196
Other sorts „ ..	501	508	467	1,651	1,499	1,518
Total „ ..	18,524	25,247	25,834	60,530	70,604	75,434
Coloured piecegoods „ ..	7,317	9,772	9,730	22,171	27,827	29,974
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods „ ..	212	329	240	793	958	673
Hosiery „ ..	19	30	34	52	80	99
Miscellaneous „ ..	201	189	294	458	709	860
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	56	217	391	165	571	1,127
Grand Total „ ..	26,329	35,784	36,523	84,169	100,749	108,167

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	761	824	1,821	1,932	2,222	3,518
Chudders „ ..	726	1,517	1,385	2,344	3,124	3,373
Dhotis „ ..	2,100	2,558	3,150	6,635	6,988	8,474
Drills and jeans „ ..	781	772	1,084	2,876	2,875	3,599
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	15	11	16	164	14	42
Printers „ ..	..	..	..	7	..	..
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	5,631	9,009	7,588	18,798	25,249	23,565
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	781	1,031	785	2,350	2,378	3,259
Tent cloth „ ..	84	17	7	255	63	173
Other sorts „ ..	231	324	241	712	861	806
Total „ ..	11,110	16,063	16,077	36,073	43,774	46,809
Coloured piecegoods „ ..	5,277	7,361	6,846	15,491	19,420	20,363
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods „ ..	202	319	236	760	928	664
Hosiery „ ..	3	3	11	14	15	30
Miscellaneous „ ..	182	170	234	417	589	686
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	54	128	241	162	292	640
Grand Total „ ..	16,828	24,044	23,645	52,917	65,018	69,192

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—*contd.*

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of June			Three months ended June		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi „ ..	33	18	30	143	65	53
Chudders „ ..	385	345	333	922	966	902
Dhotis „ ..	2,890	4,537	4,418	9,904	13,129	12,531
Drills and jeans „ ..	45	28	28	185	92	89
Cambrics and lawns „ ..	19	14	34	53	40	64
Printers „ ..	106	74	32	453	319	201
Shirtings and long cloth „ ..	1,595	1,802	2,005	4,724	5,151	5,428
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings „ ..	181	271	395	736	722	782
Tent cloth „ ..	18	..	3	60	6	5
Other sorts „ ..	196	81	131	627	361	437
Total „ ..	5,468	7,170	7,409	17,812	20,851	20,492
Coloured piecegoods „ ..	1,160	1,526	1,663	4,342	5,741	6,193
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods „ ..	2	1	1	4	4	5
Hosiery „ ..	15	27	24	37	65	70
Miscellaneous „ ..	15	19	60	35	120	172
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool „ ..	..	86	147	..	274	476
Grand Total „ ..	6,660	8,829	9,304	22,230	27,055	27,408

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	July 1926	June 1927	July 1927	July 1914	July 1926	June 1927	July 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 11 7	6 3 1	6 3 1	100	143	132	132
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6		7 12 9	7 12 9	100	..	139	139
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	71 0 0	82 8 0	77 8 0	100	158	183	172
Do.	Jubbulpore	,,	40 0 0	51 8 0	52 8 0	51 0 0	100	129	131	128
Jowari (1)	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 5 5	4 5 5	100	131	137	137
Barley		,,	3 4 6	4 12 2	4 7 1	4 3 9	100	145	135	129
Bajri	Ghati	,,	3 4 6	5 8 1	4 10 6	4 7 1	100	168	142	135
Index No.—Cereals							100	146	143	139
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	5 1 3	4 10 6	4 8 10	100	120	110	108
Turdal	Cawnpore	,,	5 10 5	7 9 11	8 7 5	8 7 5	100	135	150	150
Index No.—Pulses							100	128	130	129
Index No.—Food grains							100	141	140	137
Sugar—							100	..	..	..
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0				100	152	148	144
Do.	Java, white	,,	10 3 0	15 8 0	15 2 0	14 10 0	100	135	109	116
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	10 9 11	8 9 2	9 1 10	100	144	129	130
Index No.—Sugar										
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	7 7 9	8 11 4	8 4 9	100	134	156	149
Ghee	Deshi	,,	45 11 5	80 0 0	91 6 10	91 6 10	100	175	200	200
Salt	Bombay (black)	,,	1 7 6	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	136	136	136
Index No.—Other food							100	148	164	162
Index No.—All Food							100	143	143	141
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt	8 14 6	11 4 0	11 0 0	10 13 0	100	126	124	121
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	,,	8 0 0	11 6 0	11 11 0	11 6 0	100	142	145	142
Poppy seed		,,	10 14 0	14 8 0	17 12 0	17 14 0	100	133	163	164
Gingelly seed	White	,,	11 4 0	17 12 0	16 10 0	16 4 0	100	158	148	144
Index No—Oilseeds							100	140	145	143

Textiles—Cotton—											
(a) *Cotton, raw—* †											
Broach	Good	Candy	251 0 0	342 0 0	336 0 0	350 0 0	100	136	134	139	
Oomra	Fully good	,,	222 0 0	333 0 0	329 0 0	343 0 0	100	149	148	155	
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	,,	230 0 0	352 0 0	345 0 0	358 0 0	100	153	150	156	
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	,,	205 0 0	293 0 0	319 0 0	328 0 0	100	146	156	160	
Bengal	Do.	,,	198 0 0	270 0 0	306 0 0	316 0 0	100	136	155	160	
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	144	149	154	
(b) *Cotton manufactures—*											
Twist	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 6	1 1 3	1 1 6	100	153	135	137	
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	9 12 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	100	164	147	147	
White mulls*	6/600	,,	4 3 0	9 12 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	233	215	215	
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	,,	10 6 0	20 0 0	17 4 0	17 4 0	100	193	166	166	
Long Cloth (3)	Local made 36" × 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 0 3	0 15 0	0 15 0	100	171	158	158	
Chudders (4)	54" × 6 yds.	,,	0 9 6	0 15 6	0 13 9	0 14 6	100	163	145	153	
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	180	161	163	
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	163	155	159	
Other Textiles—											
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	5 13 7	7 0 11	7 0 11	100	113	137	137	
Do.	Mathow Lars	,,	2 15 1	4 4 10	4 11 3	4 4 10	100	146	160	146	
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	130	149	142	
Hides and Skins—											
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 9 2	1 10 2	1 9 4	100	135	141	137	
Do Buffalo	Do.	,,	1 1 3	1 0 2	0 13 11	0 14 7	100	94	81	85	
Skins, Goat	Do.	,,	1 4 0	2 10 2	2 5 9	2 7 0	100	211	189	195	
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	147	137	139	
Metals—											
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 0 0	55 0 0	54 8 0	100	96	91	90	
Iron bars		,,	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 4 0	100	175	169	156	
Steel hoops		,,	7 12 0	10 0 0	10 4 0	10 0 0	100	129	132	129	
Galvanised sheets		,,	9 0 0	13 14 0	13 2 0	12 1 0	100	154	146	134	
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 6 0	15 0 0	14 14 0	100	1 [illegible]	171	170	
Index No.—Metals							100	150	142	135	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal (2)	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	142	142	142	
Do.	Imported	,,	19 11 6	19 2 0	22 10 1	25 6 1	100	97	115	129	
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 6 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	169	175	175	
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 9	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	185	191	191	
Index No.—Other raw and manfcd. articles							100	148	156	159	
Index No.—Food							100	143	143	141	
Index No.—Non-food							100	152	149	149	
General Index No.							100	149	147	147	

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality since March 1926. (2) Since June 1925, the quotation is for Bengal, 1st Class Jheria. (3) Quotation for 37" × 37½ yds since March 1926. (4) Quotation for 50" × 6 yds. since March 1926.

*In the absence of price-quotations for the grade 6/600 the price quoted since June 1925 for white mulls is for the grade 6,000.

†Since October 1925, the price-quotations for raw cotton are for the following five varieties, viz., Broach, Fully Good; Comra, Fine; Dharwar, Saw-ginned, F.G.; Khandesh, Fully Good; Bengal, Fully good.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	July 1926	June 1927	July 1927	July 1914	July 1926	June 1927	July 1927
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a p	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—					(1)	(1)				
Rice	Larkana No. 3 ..	Candy	39 0 0	60 8 0	61 12 0	63 12 0	100	155	158	163
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red ..	,,	31 8 0	44 0 0	41 4 0	40 12 0	100	140	131	129
,, red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red ..	,,	31 4 0	43 0 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	138	127	127
,, white	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 8 0	45 4 0	42 6 0	42 2 0	100	139	130	130
,, red	2% barley, 1½% dirt ..	,,	32 4 0	44 4 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	137	127	127
Jowari	Export quality ..	,,	25 8 0	43 8 0	38 8 0	38 0 0	100	171	151	149
Barley	3% dirt ..	,,	26 8 0	36 8 0	34 0 0	33 0 0	100	138	128	125
Index No.—Cereals ..						..	100	145	136	136
Pulses—										
Gram (2)	1% dirt ..	Candy	29 8 0	39 8 0	34 8 0	35 8 0	100	134	117	120
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java, white ..	Cwt.	9 2 0	14 13 0	15 1 0	14 4 6	100	162	165	157
,, ...	,, brown ..	,,	8 1 6		13 12 0	13 7 0	100	..	170	166
Index No.—Sugar ..						..	100	162	168	162
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 10 6	1 14 0	100	78	78	88
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 11 0	4 3 0	4 3 0	100	136	155	155
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture ..	Candy	51 0 0		67 8 0	65 0 0	100	..	132	127
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture ..	,,	62 0 0		99 0 0	97 0 0	100	..	160	156
Index No.—Oilseeds ..						..	100	136	149	146
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills ..	100 bags	38 4 0	50 8 0	50 0 0	49 8 0	100	132	131	129

Textiles—Cotton										
(*a*) Cotton, raw	Sind ..	Maund.	20 4 0	32 8 0	34 4 0	35 6 0	100	160	169	175
(*b*) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill ..	Piece.	10 3 6	19 2 0	13 14 0	14 0 0	100	187	136	137
Shirtings	Liepmann's ..	,,	10 2 0	20 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	198	168	168
Index No.—Cotton manufactures ..						..	100	193	152	153
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton ..						..	100	182	158	160
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar ..	Maund.	28 0 0	32 0 0	36 0 0	39 0 0	100	114	129	139
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind ..	Maund.	21 4 0	12 0 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	100	56	71	68
,, ,, ...	Punjab ..	,,	21 4 0	12 0 0	15 0 0	14 8 0	100	56	71	68
Index No.—Hides ..						..	100	56	71	68
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	58 0 0	56 8 0	55 0 0	100	96	93	91
Steel Bars		,,	3 14 0	5 8 0	6 4 0	6 4 0	100	142	161	161
,, Plates		,,	4 6 0	5 12 0	6 10 0	6 12 0	100	131	151	154
Index No.—Metals ..						..	100	123	135	135
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal ..	Ton.	16 0 0	21 2 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	132	138	138
Kerosene	Chester Brand ..	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188
,, ...	Elephant ,, ..	2 Tins	4 7 0	7 4 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	163	169	169
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles						..	100	159	165	165
Index No.—Food ..						..	100	139	135	135
Index No.—Non-food ..						..	100	135	139	139
General Index No. ..						..	100	137	137	137

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Sukkur, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual since April 1924.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food.	General Index No.
1924														
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	189	184
1925														
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a)144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	144	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147
November ..	144	133	152	146	144	131	118	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December ..	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January ..	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February ..	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	135	158	159	149	148
March ..	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	163	134	137	156	161	149	148
April ..	144	125	134	150	141	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	145
May ..	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148	147	159	150	148
June ..	143	130	129	161	143	145	149	161	149	137	142	156	149	147
July ..	139	129	130	162	141	143	154	163	142	139	136	159	149	147

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average ..	*	100	(d) 100	100	100		100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914 " ..	100	96			106	(e) 100		102	109	(c) 115	116	102	98
1915 " ..		97			147	102		140	146	159	145	110	101
1916 " ..		117			138	124		188	224	233	185	132	127
1917 " ..		149			153	169		262	276	341	244	179	177
1918 " ..	236	196			178	207		339	373	345	339	199	194
1919 " ..	222	236			189	226		356	304	322	331	209	206
1920 " ..	216	259	152		228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	347	244	226
1921 " ..	199	200	150		175	180	197	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922 " ..	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	152	149
1923 " ..	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924 " ..	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925 " ..	163	202	159	170	170	152	159	550	155	251	157	160	159
" August ..	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
" September ..	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
" October ..	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
" November ..	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
" December ..	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January ..	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
" February ..	(b) 151	188	163	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
" March ..	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	145	160	152
" April ..	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
" May ..	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
" June ..	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
" July ..	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
" August ..	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	769	139	196	143	154	149
" September ..	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	153	151
" October ..	147	174	171	(b) 161	162	129	152	751	143	188	142	151	150
" November ..	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	130	152	684	147	182	142	152	148
" December ..	146	170	172	159	162	130	146	527	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January ..	146	170	173	159	162	126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
" February ..	148	171	172	(b) 160	160	124	143	632	146	165	140	150	146
" March ..	148	171	175	157	157	124	141	641	144	160	139	149	145
" April ..	(b) 145	170	173	157	159	122	140	637	143	159	138	149	144
" May ..	148	171	173	158	160	124	141	629	145	160	139	152	144
" June ..	147	170	169	158			142	623				154	144
" July ..	147												

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914—1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100

† The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(k) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100 (k)	100 (f)	100 (f)	(g) 100
1915 „	104	125	97	119	(l) 108	99		(d) 117		103		105 (m)
1916 „	108	148	102	115	117	116		146		106		118
1917 „	118	180	130	116	128	146		190		114		142
1918 „	149	203	146	118	144	197		253	204 (o)	118		174
1919 „	186	208	155	132	157	205		(d) 275	222	126	238 (n)	199
1920 „	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	307	224	155	(p) 341	200
1921 „	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	294	200	133	(p) 307	174
1922 „	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	251	164	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 „	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	238	164	130	(p) 334	173
1924 „	157	170	144	149	160	512	493	249	169	132	(p) 366	173
1925 „	157	173	146	(a) 153	(l) 163	598	509	259	168 (o)	133	(p) 390	178 (m)
1926 February	154	173	154		162	661	526	230	164	131		
„ March	155	172	154	156	. ..	654	521	225	163	131	451	
„ April	153	168	153		...	642	529	221	162	131		
„ May	153	167	152	...	163	652	558	220	162	132		
„ June	155	168	150	161		650	579	18	162	131	485	175
„ July	157	170	150	. ..	.	649	637	2.0	162	130		
„ August	155	170	150	.	163	652	681	219	161	130		
„ September	155	172	149	158	..	657	684	217	161	130	539	
„ October	155	174	148		. .	672	705	218	161	131		
„ November	154	179	150	...	163	657	730	217	161	131		
„ December	156	179	151	157	.	657	7-1	213	161	129	545	176
1927 January	156	175	152		...	655	755	210	160	130		
„ February	155	172	151	...	162	667	770	208	160	130		
„ March	155	171	1'0	156		663	771	203	159	131	524	
„ April	153	165	148	. ..	...	651	774	201	158	131		
„ May	152	164	148	...	161	012	776	201	159	132		
„ June	154	163	148			. ..	785	201			525	
„ July	156	166		...			.. .					
„ August	157	...	...	...	.	...	. .		..	..		

(a) From 1914 to 1925 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100 (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (k) Revised figures. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (m) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (o) Yearly averages for the years 1918 to 1925 (p) June figures.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	..
No of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	..
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c)100	(d)..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	(i 100 h)
1915 ,, ...	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	..	124	128	..
1916 ,, ...	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	160	142	146	..
1917 ,, ...	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	142	214(g)	181	166	..
1918 ,, ...	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	..
1919 ,, ...	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	..
1920 ,, ...	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	982	211	319	297	253	..
1921 ,, ...	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236	211
1922 ,, ...	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
1923 ,, ...	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f)496	105	968	136	218	160	188	166
1924 ,, ...	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	200	170
1925 ,, ...	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	210	169
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	(j) 175	216	162	177	165
,, February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	212	160	..	163
,, March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	172	205	159	..	161
,, April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	..	198	158	..	161
,, May	150	158	152	119	163	151	156	522	664	152	1,041	163	195	157	..	159
,, June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	161	1,052	..	194	157	..	159
,, July	155	161	149	116	159	149	154	574	654	185	1,067	168	198	156	159	159
,, August	153	161	150	117	157	149	..	587	660	193	1,116	..	196	156	..	157
,, September	152	162	147	117	155	148	155	590	652	186	1,110	164	193	157	..	158
,, October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	624	654	197	1,091	..	191	157	..	160
,, November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	628	630	206	1,081	164	186	158	..	159
,, December	154	169	151	117	158	149	159	599	631	208	1,081	..	184	157	..	159
1927 January	155	167	153	116	158	148	156	592	625	208	1,063	166	180	156	156	158
,, February	152	164	151	117	153	146	153	585	642	212	1,064	..	177	153	..	157
,, March	157	162	149	118	151	146	151	581	635	205	1,055	168	173	151	..	156
,, April	151	155	146	119	151	145	151	590	617	204	1,034	..	169	151	152	156
,, May	150	154	145	121	152	145	152	589	565	201	1,021	162	169	150	..	156
,, June	151	154	146	..	153	145	..	583	..	..	..	..	172	151	..	..
,, July	154	159	..	..	..	144	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
,, August	155	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914 (d) Revised series—1921 = 100. (e) Figure for June. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914 = 100. (i) Revised figures. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague (base, January to July 1914 = 100)

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN JUNE AND JULY 1927

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay June 1927	Karachi June 1927	Ahmedabad June 1927	Sholapur June 1927	Poona June 1927	Bombay July 1927	Karachi July 1927	Ahmedabad July 1927	Sholapur July 1927	Poona July 1927
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund	7 9 10 *136*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	8 7 10 *147*	7 11 1 *138*	8 0 0 *120*	8 0 0 *130*	8 6 9 *159*	8 1 0 *140*
Wheat	,,	7 5 8 *131*	5 10 7 *135*	6 2 6 *131*	7 1 9 *138*	8 0 0 *149*	7 6 11 *133*	5 10 7 *135*	6 2 6 *131*	7 1 9 *138*	8 0 0 *149*
Jowari	,,	5 6 8 *124*	4 7 1 *122*	5 0 0 *131*	3 14 6 *136*	4 15 3 *144*	5 12 6 *133*	4 7 1 *122*	5 0 0 *131*	3 14 6 *136*	4 6 5 *128*
Bajri	,,	5 12 4 *134*	5 0 0 *119*	5 11 5 *121*	4 2 4 *118*	5 9 10 *137*	5 12 4 *134*	4 13 7 *115*	5 11 5 *121*	4 4 0 *121*	5 1 2 *124*
Index No.—Cereals	..	*131*	*124*	*128*	*138*	*144*	*135*	*123*	*128*	*139*	*135*
Pulses—											
Gram	Maund	6 11 10 *156*	5 5 4 *140*	5 2 7 *129*	5 10 2 *131*	5 8 11 *114*	6 9 0 *153*	5 6 1 *141*	5 2 7 *129*	5 8 9 *129*	5 7 *112*
Turdal	,,	8 15 7 *154*	9 8 10 *143*	8 14 3 *144*	8 13 5 *151*	9 13 6 *149*	8 15 7 *154*	9 6 7 *141*	8 14 3 *144*	9 14 6 *170*	[illegible]
Index No.—Pulses	..	*155*	*142*	*137*	*141*	*132*	*154*	*141*	*137*	*150*	*134*

Other articles of food—															
Sugar (refined)	..	Maund	13 11 1 *180*	11 13 8 *163*	13 5 4 *167*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*	13 11 1 *180*	11 10 2 *160*	12 12 10 *160*	13 5 4 *133*	12 15 3 *138*			
Jaggri (gul)		,,	13 1 6 *153*	9 4 5 *133*	10 10 8 *120*	8 6 9 *108*	8 5 0 *118*	13 11 1 *160*	8 6 9 *121*	10 10 8 *120*	8 12 3 *113*	8 13 10 *126*			
Tea		Lb.	0 15 5 *198*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	1 0 5 *200*	0 15 2 *194*	0 15 7 *225*	0 15 7 *200*	1 1 10 *171*	*200*			
Salt		Maund	3 5 0 *156*	2 0 0 *152*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 9 11 *139*	3 6 7 *160*	2 3 7 *169*	2 4 7 *151*	3 8 2 *158*	2 14 8 *155*			
Beef		Seer	0 8 7 *166*	0 9 0 *180*	0 4 11 *82*	0 3 0 *121*	0 6 0 *141*	0 8 7 *166*	0 9 0 *180*	0 5 2 *86*	0 4 0 *160*	0 6 0 *141*			
Mutton		,,	0 13 2 *197*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*	0 13 8 *205*	0 10 0 *167*	0 10 0 *167*	0 8 0 *133*	0 9 0 *150*			
Milk		Maund	17 9 4 *191*	8 0 0 *180*	12 4 11 *246*	13 5 4 *183*	13 5 4 *133*	17 9 4 *191*	8 0 0 *189*	10 0 0 *200*	11 6 10 *157*	13 5 4 *133*			
Ghee	.. .	,,	97 0 5 *191*	73 2 5 *171*	84 8 5 *190*	71 1 9 *127*	74 6 8 *144*	99 6 6 *196*	73 2 5 *171*	85 5 4 *192*	6 3 1 *136*	74 6 8 *144*			
Potatoes		,,	7 2 3 *159*	4 4 3 *79*	4 3 4 *111*	5 0 0 *125*	4 3 4 *125*	7 11 10 *173*	6 2 6 *114*	5 11 5 *150*	7 9 11 *191*	4 15 3 *147*			
Onions	..	,,	3 9 2 *230*	2 9 3 *142*	2 8 0 *125*	3 1 3 *123*	2 6 6 *120*	3 9 2 *230*	3 4 3 *180*	2 8 0 *125*	3 1 3 *123*	2 10 1 *131*			
Coconut oil		,,	27 15 7 *110*	25 9 7 *104*	32 0 0 *160*	2 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*	28 9 2 *113*	25 9 7 *104*	21 1 5 *145*	32 0 0 *120*	28 1 1 *100*			
Index No.—Other articles of food	.		*176*	*154*	*156*	*137*	*137*	*179*	*161*	*154*	*145*	*142*			
Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)			*163*	*146*	*147*	*137*	*138*	*165*	*150*	*146*	*144*	*140*			

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House rent	Cost of living
1924									
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March . ..	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September .	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October . .	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
July	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927									
January	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
February	134	154	136	180	152	165	148	172	155
March	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
May	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
June	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154
July	136	153	138	181	154	166	149	172	156
August	136	157	138	184	155	166	152	172	157